Dudley
CHRONICLE
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£20m REVAMP FOR MERRY HILL

Report by Heather Large

MORE leisure attractions, an expanded food court and larger stores form part of a five-year masterplan to revamp Merry Hill shopping centre.

Bosses from centre owner Intu have also vowed that parking will remain free for as long as they own the site.

Since Intu Properties bought a 50 per cent stake for more than £400 million last year, it has begun giving the shopping centre a facelift.

In recent months, the malls have been painted and new lighting installed to give it a brighter appearance.

Shoppers can also now connect to free WiFi following a six-figure investment in technology.

Intu Asset manager Nick Round said this was just the start. He revealed that a five-year programme was being drawn up for redeveloping and improving not just the shopping centre but also the retail parks and the nearby Waterfront.

This could include attracting more big restaurant chains as well as providing new leisure options.

Bosses also want to cater for stores which want larger premises – including Topshop and Topman, which will open a new two-storey branch near Debenhams next year.

Exciting

Plans for the site are still at an early stage but Mr Round said it was 'an exciting time' for Merry Hill, saying the investment being made would be 'significantly more' than £20m.

Marketing manager Rob Pickersgill said they were keen to build on the good reputation of the shopping centre.

"It's a great shopping centre with great local tradition," he said. "Shoppers love the centre but the opportunity is there to do more – the only way is up."

Mr Round said they would continue to offer free parking despite calls having been made in the past by council bosses for charges to be introduced.

"The Intu policy is that, at our regional shopping centres, we don't charge for parking," he said. "I think charging for parking would be a disadvantage, people would go elsewhere.

"I am certain that while we own the shopping centre, we will not be charging for parking. There has been free parking for 25 years," he added.

Mr Round also revealed that plans for a revamp of the bus station at Merry Hill were being revived.

A previous £3m scheme was shelved by Dudley Council and Centro because of concern over high costs. But Mr Round confirmed the plans were being re-visited to see what improvements could be made.

Intu has already invested around £3m on improving car parks and roads around the centre.

BLOCKBUSTER SCREEN BRINGS MOVIE MAGIC

Dudley Showcase General Manager Andrew Edwards is ready for a rush of movie fans eager to experience the giant screen

MOVIE fans in Dudley can now look forward to supersized viewings of the latest blockbusters.

Showcase Cinema at Castlegate Park has unveiled a 47-foot XPlus screen, only the eighth in the country.

Bosses say it provides crystal clear projection, ultra-sharp images and the sharpest 3D experience available.

The screen is the biggest in town and stretches almost twice the height of the Market Place Fountain.

Mark Barlow, General Manager of Showcase's UK Theatres, said: "We believe cinema is about more than just watching a film, it's about an experience.

"XPlus delivers uncompromising sound and picture quality that bring films to life. Experience tells us it'll be a big hit with cinema-goers."

Investment

Bosses at the venue off Tipton Road said the screen was part £10 million investment across the UK by Showcase.

Sound quality has been enhanced via Dolby Atmos. Javier Foncillas, Dolby Laboratories Regional Manager for Western Europe said: "Dolby Atmos gives film directors and sound mixers the ability to precisely place and move sounds anywhere in a cinema. This creates the most realistic, engaging experience ever, making cinema-goers feel as if they are in the film."

The first film to be shown on the new screen is The Martian, directed by Ridley Scott and starring Matt Damon and Jessica Chastain.

Bookings are already being taken to watch new Bond movie Spectre on the XPlus screen.

ROADS

Six weeks of delays during pipe works

SIX weeks of roadworks will cause disruption on a major route through Dudley.

Balfour Beatty is carrying out work to gas pipes under Birmingham New Road and Sedgley Road West which will lead to lane closures.

Dudley Council said efforts would be made to reduce disruption with work at weekends, off-peak times and during school holidays. The works are due to start on Saturday and run until November 27.

Councillor Hilary Bills said: "This is essential work to ensure that people have a gas supply over the winter."

NOSTALGIA

Back to the Future at college venue

DUDLEY College will be marking 'Back to the Future Day' by showing the 1985 hit film on the big screen.

October 21, 2015, marks the date that characters Doc and Marty McFly, played by Christopher Lloyd and Michael J Fox, time travel to in Back to the Future Part II.

Dudley College's Evolve Theatre will be showing the original Back to the Future movie, the venue's first screening, on that date at 7pm. Tickets are £5 per adult and £3 concessions.

BUILDINGS

Council and police could share bases

DUDLEY Council could share buildings with West Midlands Police following proposed station closures by the force.

Stations in Dudley, Kingswinford, Netherton, Stourbridge and Halesowen are all facing the axe over the next two years to make £8.5 million of savings.

Councillor Judy Foster told the region's Strategic Policing and Crime Board that it would be a good idea to discuss opportunities for 'collaboration'.

Councillor Gaye Partridge added: "Sharing resources could also save the tax payer money in the long run, something we are always trying to do."

INSIDE

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PAGE 10

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CONTENTS

MARK ANDREWS	6
LETTERS	7
COMPETITION	10
MEMORY LANE	18
THE FAST TICKET	25
PROPERTY	33
MOTORING	41
SPORT	51 & 52

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New hope Hippodrome can be saved

DUDLEY Hippodrome could be open to the public again within months, those behind a proposed rescue package have revealed.

A group led by Gary Blick say they are confident they will be able to come up with the funds to take over the landmark building.

The businessman and music promoter from Kidderminster has held talks with Dudley Council and is planning a proposal to take over and run the venue

Mr Blick, who is part of the Friends of Dudley Hippodrome organisation, joined others inside the historic theatre for a visit on Friday to inspect the state of the former theatre.

The visit was mainly restricted to the balcony area due to concerns over asbestos.

Members were joined by experts who assessed how much it would likely cost to restore the building on Castle Hill.

They now have until the end of the month to confirm their interest in taking over the building, which was used as a bingo hall before its closure.

Mr Blick said work to renovate the Hippodrome could begin within six months if they were able to come to an agreement with the council.

He claimed that it could be back hosting events again in just 'seven or eight months' if the scheme came to fruition.

Mr Blick said: "The idea is for it to have theatrical use, live music and to be a conference venue. There are multi-purpose options.

"The plan is to continue to put the project together and come up with a full package.

"It could take up to six months to clear the asbestos but the idea is, once the asbestos is cleared, we can get our own guys in and start clearing the building."

The Friends group is still in the process of trying to raise the seven-figure sum it needs to buy the building. Members have applied for Heritage Lottery funding and are now investigating acquiring European funding.

Drivers are putting the lives of children at risk

DRIVERS are failing to stop for children using a zebra crossing on a busy road with youngsters having to run back to the pavement to avoid being hit, say campaigners.

Buses are also being overtaken by drivers at high speeds on Rangeways Road, Kingswinford, according to residents.

More than 20 people gathered for the launch of Street Watch and Speed Watch initiatives covering the High Acres area last week. There was enough interest from people willing to volunteer for the schemes to go ahead.

A campaign has already been launched to get existing zebra crossings along nearby Bromley Lane replaced with pelican crossings to force drivers to stop for pedestrians.

Similar measures are also being considered by Dudley Council for Rangeways Road.

Upgrading

Residents said they hoped the new Speed Watch would help gather the information needed for the council to approve upgrading the crossing.

Resident Claire Davies, aged 42, said: "Some drivers are not stopping at the zebra crossing. There have been some occasions when children have started crossing and have had to run back to the pavement because a car has not stopped. It is a very dangerous situation.

"Also when a bus has stopped some drivers are going around them at high speeds,even though their view of oncoming traffic is blocked. Something needs to be done and hopefully this will achieve that."

Resident Ron Downing, 73, said people were also parking in a way that made it difficult for buses to get past.

Residents taking part in the Street Watch volunteer to patrol areas looking for issues which can then be raised with police.

The Speed Watch sees volunteers going out with a PCSO to monitor traffic along roads where problems with speed have been reported.

Councillor Derrick Hemingsley, who has been involved with a similar scheme in Wordsley, said: "I am really pleased there has been such an interest in this."

Flying high after landing Pan roles

Pan-tastic result for Liam, George, James and Archie getting ready for the Grand panto in Wolverhampton

FOUR West Midland boys have landed parts in Wolverhampton Grand Theatre's pantomime Peter Pan.

The roles of Wendy's brothers, Michael and John, will be played by the local lads who join a full professional cast for the festive season.

Archie Turner, aged eight, from Rowley Regis will play Michael alongside James Shaw, 11, from Bishopswood as John. On alternate dates, eight-year-old George Passalacqua from Bromsgrove will play Michael while Liam Hewitt, 10 from Kingswinford will play John.

The four boys were chosen from open auditions held on stage at the Grand Theatre in August by the pantomime's director David Burrows and choreographer Steven Harris.

The pantomime opens on December 12.

The selection process included having to perform a rehearsed poem or monologue, and reading excerpts from the Peter Pan script.

Managing Director of Qdos Entertainment's pantomimes division Michael Harrison said "We're absolutely delighted to welcome Archie, James, George and Liam to our company of performers, and know that they will have a truly memorable Christmas alongside our professional cast".

They will perform 37 shows during the six-week run of the panto, starring The Chuckle Brothers as the Smees and EastEnders' John Altman as Captain Hook.

Police cuts to be eased by nearly £37 million

FUNDING cuts for West Midlands Police will be eased by almost £37 million after campaigners called on the Government to re-think.

Police and crime commissioner David Jamieson said pressure had convinced the Home Office to change its planned formula for funding forces, that would have disadvantaged the West Midlands and stripped it of more than half its budget.

Although big cuts still loom, the change means the second largest force in the country will get a 6.63 per cent share of police budgets, instead of the original 6.11 per cent. It is estimated that means the force's budget could be £470.5m, compared with the planned £433.6m, as long as no other drastic cuts are announced by the Chancellor.

Mr Jamieson said: "This is a victory for common sense. I would like to thank the media and politicians from across the political spectrum for joining me in a cross-party campaign to make sure that West Midlands Police gets a fair deal. The fight is not over.

"I will press the Government to make sure that this change is actually delivered in full as soon as possible and not delayed.

"West Midlands Police has faced double the cuts of other forces over the last five years and I'm determined to make sure that we are not disproportionately hit again.

"I won't be satisfied until we have actually received the money and will keep pressing until it is actually delivered."

Boy knocked out in road accident

AN 11-year-old boy was knocked unconscious and suffered a head injury after he was hit by a car in Dudley.

The incident on Grosvenor Road in Gornal Wood happened at around 1.25pm on Sunday.

When crews from West Midlands Ambulance Service arrived an off-duty paramedic was already tending to the boy.

The boy had also suffered injuries to his abdomen.

He was taken by ambulance to Birmingham Children's Hospital. His injuries are not thought to be life-threatening.

The driver of the car involved, a Suburu Impreza, was not injured.

West Midlands Police attended and cordoned off the scene, closing the road for two hours.

More patrols to tackle alley yobs

YOBS have been congregating in an alleyway behind homes in Dudley to take drugs and drink alcohol.

This has prompted extra police patrols in St Catherines Close, Kates Hill. Officers say they are looking to work with community leaders.

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Fly-tipping lands man a bill for over £600

A FLY-TIPPER has been ordered to shell out more than £600 for illegally dumping rubbish on land in Netherton, after he had been paid to dispose of it properly.

Andrew Pargeter, of Stretton Place, Netherton, had been contacted via Facebook and paid to remove the waste by a resident.

But the 46-year-old dumped the bags of household waste on the Old Railway Walk, off Stretton Place.

Dudley Council staff were asked to remove the rubbish and managed to trace it back to the original owner.

Pargeter admitted three charges at Dudley Magistrates Court, on October 1, including not being a registered waste carrier, dumping the waste and failing in his duty of care in handling and disposing of the waste.

He was fined £250 plus £295 costs and £75 in compensation.

Message

Councillor Hilary Bills, cabinet member for environmental services, said: "This sends out a clear message that if you blight our beautiful borough with rubbish, it can lead to a costly trip to court.

"As part of our Love Your Community campaign we want people to share our pride in this borough and help us keep it clean and tidy."

She added: "I'd also like to remind people when they are taking on traders for this type of work, that they need to make sure they have a licence to carry waste."

Belly good event to raise money

IT will not be strictly ballroom for Mayor of Dudley Councillor Steve Waltho when he attends a dance event next month to raise money for Russells Hall Hospital.

Eastern Nights, organised Jacquie Hogwood who was diagnosed with breast cancer in February last year, will host dance styles from Bollywood to belly dancing at The Venue in High Street Dudley on November 14.

The 68-year-old has been a belly dancer for 17 years and hopes to raise a total of £4,000 to improve the waiting room facilities at the Georgina Oncology Unit. The show includes a three-course Asian or English buffet. Tickets are £20 each or £180 for table of ten. Call Jacquie on 07801 277391 or The Venue on (01384) 459800.

Health group is holding meeting

THE next meeting of Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group is tomorrow (Fri). The committee, which makes decisions on GP services, meets at 1pm at the Brierley Hill Health and Social Care Centre in Venture Way.

Travellers 'desercrate' beauty spot

A caravan left behind by travellers

TRAVELLERS left a trail of damage behind at a nature reserve in Netherton.

Plastic bags, pieces of wood and a caravan are among items left strewn across part of Bumble Hole Nature Reserve.

Between 30 and 40 caravans pitched up on land off St George's Road on September 29 and spent a week at the site, before finally leaving last Tuesday night.

Visitors to the beauty spot have been left angered by the state the conservation area has been left in.

Mike Bradshaw, of nearby in Gads Green Crescent, said: "All the locals use it to walk their dogs and children play over there. It's disappointing when travellers turn up and take over.

"To my knowledge, it's the first time the nature reserve has been used in this way. The mess is quite horrific, there is excrement and it is a health hazard."

Netherton's Councillor Elaine Taylor said: "It is a beautiful site that is well-used by all of our neighbouring areas in both Dudley and Sandwell, and it has been desecrated by all of this rubbish."

Mr Bradshaw said he was frustrated that it took a week for the travellers to be moved on.

By the time Dudley Council went to serve the notice they had already moved on.

Councillor Gaye Partridge, Dudley Council's cabinet member for housing, said: "Following attempts by police and council officers to persuade this group to leave we were forced to apply for a court order. The order can and will be used, should they return."

Killer put behind bars again for savage attack

A CONVICTED killer who launched a savage attack on a vulnerable woman outside a Netherton pub is starting a 28-month jail sentence.

Michael Cameron, who had killed a young man in a similar incident in 2007, struck again outside The Hope Tavern during the early hours of April 25.

The 26-year-old punched Kelly Griffiths after an argument at the pub before turning on her friend Michelle Claridge when she tried to halt the violence, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard on Thursday.

Cameron then rained further blows down on the disorientated Miss Griffiths while ignoring further pleas to stop, said Mr Paul Farrow prosecuting.

Jailed — Michael Cameron

Mr Devon Small, defending, said: "He has seen CCTV of the incident and is sickened by his actions. He has not been to a pub since this incident and wants to apologise to both victims for what he did.

"He is not proud of his criminal record at all and had been putting his life back in order by staying out of trouble for three years."

Cameron, a barber from The Shrubbery, Eve Hill, pleaded guilty to two assault charges.

Jailing him, Judge Alan Parker who told him: "This was a determined and disturbing attack in which you hit one of the women many times to the head over several minutes. You pursued her and persisted in your attack."

Cameron killed a man with a single punch outside a pub in Rowley Regis eight years ago. The victim hit his head on the pavement after being felled by the blow.

Cameron had been drinking in The Chaplin pub with friends, members of the DJ Slew Gang of Netherton.

He got word of trouble outside the pub and landed a ferocious blow to the face of 19-year-old victim Richard Blakeway. Cameron was jailed in 2008 for a total of 34 months.

Judge Parker said: "All your offending involves violence and it is an unhappy fact that you caused someone's death in 2007." He concluded that the defendant presented a risk to the public and ordered that he be monitored on licence for 32 months longer than usual.

Orang utan Sprout gives her mother Jazz a smacker Spider-Man style at Dudley Zoo in this photo taken by zoo regular Kathryn Willett

Hang on mum and pucker up for a kiss

DUDLEY Zoo Bornean orang utan Sprout gave her mum an extraordinary kiss – Spider-Man style!

The magical moment, which mirrored the famous kiss from the hit 2002 Hollywood blockbuster Spider-Man, was captured on camera by zoo regular Kathryn Willett.

The Dudley Zoo member and amateur photographer was thrilled with her stunning snap of Sprout puckering up for mum Jazz while hanging upside down.

And the head over heels in love image has amazed keepers who said they had not seen behaviour like it from four-year-old Sprout before.

Mischievous

Head of Upper Primates Pat Stevens said: "I've never seen Sprout in such a position, never hanging upside down and she's not normally that affectionate.

"She's certainly mischievous and naughty and only normally goes up to cuddle her mum for reassurance after she's been told off!

"Kathryn's picture is just outstanding. She always seems to be there at the right moment."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Anglo-German remembrance

A SERVICE involving German and Dudley pupils to mark the day The Battle of Loos ended 100 years ago is to take place at the German War Cemetery on Cannock Chase on Sunday.

The youngsters from High Arcal School in Sedgley and its partner school in Oldenburg, Germany, will join Royal British Legion members and the Mayor of Wolverhampton for the ceremony, second in a series of Anglo-German services of remembrance and reconciliation. Last year the students came together for a service at Wolverhampton cenotaph.

MP praises new 'roll of honour'

A 'Roll of Honour' has been created at a Sedgley school where pupils will be recognised for outstanding achievement. The first four names from Dormston School's Year 11 were being unveiled in a ceremony this week.

The school was taken out of special measures last year, one year after new headteacher Ben Stitchman vowed to drive up standards. Dudley North MP Ian Austin has backed the initiative, who said: "I think it's brilliant that Dormston is recognising pupils who have made education their own priority in this way."

Extra parking for public at hospital

DOZENS of extra parking spaces will be created at Rowley Regis Hospital. Bosses hope the move will help ease the strain on patients and nearby residents.

Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust, which runs the site, wants to create a staff car park with up to 50 places on land at the back of the hospital, off Moor Lane.

It will free up existing spaces that are currently used by workers for patients and visitors.

Hate crimes are put under the spotlight

HATE crimes have come under the spotlight as part of a week-long campaign.

Dudley's community safety partnership is responding to research showing that more than 80 per cent of hate crimes are not reported. Hate crimes target disability, gender, race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, faith, belief, or sexual orientation.

Dudley police and Dudley Community Safety Team, were holding an event to promote awareness.

Choir at town hall

THE Viva Musica choir will take to the stage at Dudley Town Hall on Saturday for a Last Night of the Proms event with favourites such as Jerusalem and Land of Hope & Glory.

Guests include Sovereign Brass and choir from St Margaret's at Hasbury school. For tickets call 0121 550 5581.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

DRAMATIC puzzles of our time: Consider the grand staircase at Downton Abbey. Consider Lady Mary, as played by Michelle Dockery. Which is the more wooden?

EXPANDING the tortured issue of why pyjamas have pockets, a lady writes: "I bought myself a lovely pair of trousers and found a small zipped pocket in the waistband. I asked my granddaughter if she'd ever seen anything so daft because you couldn't keep much money in in. She replied, 'Nan, it's a condom pocket.' I am 83 and a little shocked."

MY latest bill from BT is £174.54 for the quarter, compared with £129.98 last summer, and every time it rains, the phone line goes dead. It was better than this in the 1950s, wasn't it?

A READER asks: "Is it safer to smoke inside a VW than to stand behind one when its engine is running?

A READER says she's thrilled at my suggestion of awarding an exclamation mark to a Hampshire military town, making it Middle Wallop! She was stationed there with the Army in the 1970s and recalls: "As there were 40 women and 4,000 men, we often heard an exclamation."

JUST supposing you had voted for Jeremy Corbyn as Labour leader, seen his victory on September 12 and then gone on a long holiday. Away from it all, you'd have been jubilant at helping to elect a potential prime minister who would scrap Trident, abolish tuition fees, nationalise the energy industry, quit the "capitalist" EU, refuse to kneel to the Queen and proudly wear the white poppy of pacifism on Remembrance Sunday. Then you come home to find all those things are either off the agenda or up for discussion. If Corbyn can move so far in less than a month, where will he be as the 2020 General Election looms? On the Tory benches, at this rate.

IT was, of course, very, very wrong for 60-somethings Peter Marsh and Gillian Green, having eaten some cherries, to leave a handful of discarded stones on the soil under a tree in Canterbury. They were caught by two council enforcement officers and slapped with a pair of £80 fixed-penalty fines. In the finest traditions of interrogation, the officials separated the couple in order to question them. So what would have happened if the pair had linked arms and refused to be separated? What level of force is considered appropriate against elderly pip-droppers who decline to be interviewed separately? At what stage do the officials send for armed back-up and start pepper-spraying or tasering them? Seriously, I'd like to know. I have an orange pip to dispose of.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Inspectors praise Catholic college

A BLACK Country secondary school has been rated as 'good' in its first Ofsted inspection since becoming an academy.

Bishop Milner Catholic College in Dudley was given the second best rating by the watchdog following an inspection in June.

The key areas of leadership and management, quality of teaching, pupil achievement and the sixth form provision were all graded 'good', while the behaviour and safety of pupils was said to be 'outstanding'.

A report into the inspection noted that students achieve well 'because of the determined drive by leaders and governors to raise standards in teaching and achievement'.

Students' behaviour and their attitudes to learning were said to be exemplary, while 'highly effective' relationships between students and teachers had been successfully developed, the report said.

Lead inspector Helen Reeves wrote in her report: "Students are very proud of their academy. "

Principal Steve Haywood said: "We are all extremely pleased with the outcome and now continue our journey to ensure further sustained improvement across the whole college."

Bishop Milner Catholic College

Yobs force the closure of car park at night

by Richard Guttridge

A MULTI-STOREY car park which has been plagued by vandalism and anti-social behaviour will shut at night to combat the problem.

The Ryemarket car park in Stourbridge was previously open 24/7 but it will now close at 8.30pm Monday to Saturday and at 5pm on Sunday.

Council bosses said they had been left with no option following numerous complaints about youths causing a nuisance and hanging around into the early hours of the morning.

Windows have been smashed and walls daubed with graffiti. Damage has also been caused to the roof of the car park.

Attempts to step up security have had little impact with the council saying it is not used enough at night to justify the risk of damage.

The council said around 360 cars were left there overnight during the year.

The changes have come into force immediately with notices having been put up warning drivers of the closing times.

Negative

Councillor Hilary Bills, cabinet member for environmental services, said: "I am disappointed we have been forced to make the decision to close the car park at night due to the negative behaviour of a few individuals.

"There are still parking options in the town at night but it is a shame we have had to close the facility due to the actions of a few people.

"If there was an increased demand for parking for one-off occasions, such as Christmas fairs or big shows in town, then on request the car park will stay open."

Stourbridge councillor Nicholas Barlow said it was disappointing that the council had been forced into the decision but did not believe it would have a major impact.

He said: "I have had a conversation with some traders and I don't think they are overly concerned about the car park closing at night."

Two new arrivals settling in at zoo

Senior keeper Jodie Dryden with new arrivals sea lions Marina and Tania at Dudley Zoo

LANGUAGE is no barrier for two sea lions who have been given a bostin' welcome to the Black Country.

They may be from South America via France but these creatures are settling well into their new home on Castle Hill.

Marina and Tania, who were born in Uruguay but have spent much of their life in France, are the latest addition to the sea lion colony at Dudley Zoo.

The zoo recently became home to Oba a 37-stone sea lion who has already become a popular addition to the attraction.

Marina and Tania, females aged 19 and 18, are from the same zoo near Toulouse and join a European-wide breeding programme that the zoo is a key part of.

Senior keeper Jodie Dryden got up close to the animals as they were served up fish to help them settle in.

Sarah Evans, senior keeper for carnivores, said the new arrivals have already proved a hit with visitors.

Mrs Evans said: "There were people around when they arrived and there was a good response. e've also heard from a lot of our regulars that they want to come in and see them."

The sea lions can already 'talk', wave and nod heir heads on command. Even though the languages of the commands are different, the gestures are the same which has made things easier, Mrs Evans said.

M6 link road work to take longer than was expected

MOTORWAY roadworks which have caused chaos on surrounding roads for most of this year will now be completed six months later than expected.

Repair work on the link road off the M6 onto the M5 in West Bromwich should be complete by Christmas, Highways England has announced.

This is the second delay on the major works, which were expected to be finished by June initially – then November.

Highways England blamed unforeseen circumstances for delaying waterproofing work on the ageing viaduct to December.

Walsall South MP Valerie Vaz called for a re-think to get the slip road re-open, and promised to raise it with a minister.

She said: "I am appalled that having raised this issue just after the slip road was due to be open in May that we are still waiting.

"It is unacceptable that with their expertise they were unable to foresee this situation.

"None of the people from Highways England I met actually live in the area and do not appreciate the difficulties my constituents have to face every day. I put forward some suggestions in relation to Junction 7 that should ease the situation and hope to get a positive response."

Highways England project manager Jess Kenny said: "We understand this has been frustrating for drivers, but unfortunately, there was no way for us to tell the full extent of the damage until we'd already started work."

Inquest opens on teacher, aged 36

AN inquest has been opened on a 36-year-old teacher from Cradley Heath.

Anthony Joseph Morbach-Jenkins, of Red Brick Close, was found dead in Newtown Lane, Belbroughton on September 22.

Morbach-Jenkins was a teacher at St Peter's School in Solihull.

A message on the school's website read: "It is with great sadness that we have learnt of the sudden death of Mr Jenkins who taught at St Peter's from September 2009 to August 2015.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with his family."

The inquest has been adjourned to January 6, with the cause of Mr Morbach-Jenkins' death not yet established.

Sessions starting at Crystal Leisure Centre

PILATES-STYLE classes and dance workouts are among five new sessions at Stourbridge's Crystal Leisure Centre. The classes, on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, are the breakfast blast class, Bodyjam, spinning, Gunex and bodybalance.

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Christmas will come two months early at pub

CHRISTMAS is coming early at a threatened Sedgley pub in a show of defiance to developers.

West Midlands MEP Bill Etheridge, who is also a Sedgley councillor, is going to throw an early Christmas bash at the Seven Stars Pub in Sedgley this month to ensure locals get a festive celebration at their local — and to show Morrisons supermarket bosses that they will not take spoil Christmas for the regulars.

The Seven Stars pub, in Gospel End Road, is facing closure and being replaced by a Morrisons convenience store, despite a campaign to save it.

A packed public meeting, held at the pub earlier this month, saw Councillor Etheridge and pub regulars agree to throw an early Christmas bash on October 2, from 6.30pm.

Councillor Etheridge said: "Last year Morrisons' Christmas advertising slogan was 'Morrisons – Make Christmas Special' but these Scrooges could steal Christmas from the Seven Stars through the pub's planned closure.

"Well, we will have a yuletide celebration at the Seven Stars – albeit an early one – and I promise Morrisons that it will be truly a 'special' evening for the whole community."

"These supermarket Scrooges should hang their heads in shame and indeed need to show some Christmas spirit by ditching their supermarket plans for the site for good.

"I urge as many people as possible to come along on October 22nd and isay bah humbug to Morrisons."

Market seeking teenage traders

YOUNG entrepreneurs are being invited to book a place for a free stall to sell goods at Dudley's first Teenage Market Day.

The market on Saturday, October 31, in Stone Street Square, will feature up to 30 stalls and a stage for young performers to entertain shoppers. Dudley Ambassador scheme is organising the market with funding from the European Regional Development Fund and Dudley Council.

Scores of Teenage Markets have sprung thanks to the idea of brothers Tom and Joe Barratt who wanted to revitalise their home town's market in Stockport and got backing from 'Queen of Shops' Mary Portas.

To take part go to www.theteenagemarket.co.uk

Off-road bikers causing concern

YOBS have been riding off-road bikes close to homes in Dudley prompting police to carry out extra patrols.

Officers have received reports of the nuisances around the Priory estate and warn that bikes could be seized.

Dishonest carer can only repay a fraction

A CARER who fleeced an 89-year-old man out of at least £28,000 after befriending him in a pub has been ordered to repay £920, the value of her car.

Elizabeth Teague's Citroen car was her only realisable asset, Mr Richard Gibbs, prosecuting, told a proceeds of crime hearing at Wolverhampton Crown Court last week.

Recorder Charles Foster ordered that the 45-year-old trickster, who had benefited from her crime to the tune of £28,024, should pay £920 within 28 days or face six months jail.

Teague is already serving a two-year prison sentence imposed at the same court in June when she admitted stealing from Mr Derek Perks between August 2008 and October 2013.

She had become so close to him that he regarded her as a 'daughter.' He bought her a £11,750 car, paid for her £1,200 honeymoon and lavished gifts on Teague as well as paying a salary to her as his carer.

She repaid his trust by stealing cash and getting him to sign cheques that were paid into her own account, prosecutor Miss Lynnette McClement, told the earlier court hearing.

The defendant, who had previous convictions for fraud and theft, was an alcoholic without permanent accommodation when the pair met at the Talbot pub in Stourbridge High Street.

Miss McClement continued: "He extended the hand of friendship in full knowledge of her difficulties. He offered her a place to stay and assistance – and she took advantage of this." Teague even lived at his address for a short time until being helped to get her own rented home.

But in October 2013 Mr Perks was found severely dehydrated on the floor where he had been lying for three days. He was taken to hospital in a serious condition and later transferred to a care home.

As a result of the incident members of his family discovered that substantial sums of money were missing from his bank account.

Teague, now of Lowe Lane, Alveley, near Bridgnorth, originally denied stealing £47,000 from the victim but pleaded guilty after the figure was reduced to £26,500. Mr Christopher O'Gorman, defending, said she had succumbed to temptation.

Suspended jail term for 'mean' burglary

A MAN who burgled the home of a couple who had looked after him on behalf of social services has avoided immediate jail.

George Maudsley, of Filton Avenue, Hawfield, Bristol, targeted the Open Door project in Wollescote.

Maudsley, aged 21, and an accomplice broke into the property in Perrins Lane and made off with items of 'great sentimental value' including jewellery. He pleaded guilty to burglary at Wolverhampton Crown Court.

Mr Daniel Oscroft, prosecuting, said Maudsley and his partner in crime broke in through a window and stole a significant number of items.

"The victims were left deeply upset by what happened," Mr Oscroft said. "They took people into their home on behalf of social services in what was called the Open Door project. They took on George Maudsley but after a few weeks he left."

In a statement the victims said they wanted the court to show mercy to Maudsley.

Pregnant

Mr Oscroft told the court: "They don't want to see him go to prison as they feel that under his tough exterior he was a good person with a kind heart."

Maudsley's partner is pregnant and he had taken steps to put his life in order, according to Miss Blondelle Thompson, defending.

She said: "His life has moved on since the incident and he's now in a stable relationship and mental health difficulties he had seem to have gone away. He's no longer on medication and he's taken steps forward and is doing something positive with his life. He would find custody hard."

Judge Michael Challinor handed Maudsley a suspended sentence as he said it would be 'a retrograde step' to jail someone who had improved his behaviour.

Judge Challinor said: "This was a mean offence. The victims provided you with a home for nine months or so and it's quite clear you must have said these premises were somewhere that could be burgled. The property was clearly targeted. I'm satisfied that this offence was substantially driven by your co-accused.

"It seems to me that sending you to custody would be a retrograde step."

He handed Maudsley a nine-month jail term suspended for 18 months.

Princess Royal praises sailing club

Tony Sutton and Lucy Griffiths show The Princess Royal around Himley Sailing Club, a club of the year finalist

DOWNPOURS failed to dampen spirits when Princess Anne gave the royal seal of approval to a new landing area built by members of a sailing club near Dudley.

The Princess Royal was all smiles as she visited Himley Hall Sailing Club.

She arrived in the grounds of Himley Hall by helicopter before being ferried to the lakeside by car where marquees had been set up.

The Princess Royal congratulated the club on being named as one of the top-five finalists in the Royal Yachting Association's prestigious Club of the Year.

She praised the work of the volunteers and then took a look at a new landing area and watched as youngsters from Ellowes Hall Sports College in Lower Gornal showed their sailing skills. The school has put sailing on its curriculum and sessions are held at the lake.

Princess Anne unveiled a plaque and signed the visitors book. She cut a cake baked by club member of 14 years Becky Harding, of Pensnett, and said: "It is absolutely wonderful. It is gross vandalism to cut it."

She was given a gift of a bowl made from wood from the site by club development officer Tony Sutton and spoke to founding members Mike and Dorothy Willetts, of Stourbridge.

NEWS IN BRIEF

More funds for new glass museum

ALMOST £1 million has been pledged towards creating a new glass museum in Wordsley.

Officials revealed a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund has been successful to help transform the former Stuart Crystal site, opposite the Red House Glass Cone.

The British Glass Foundation had already secured £2.1m from the European Regional Development Fund towards the project.

The borough's glass collection is in storage following the recent closure of Broadfield House in Kingswinford.

Now men can get a New Look too

FASHION retailer New Look has opened its new store just for men at Merry Hill.

The outlet is just one of a handful across the country established by the high street clothes brand to sell menswear

Fifteen new jobs have been created by the business and more positions are expected to follow at the shop in the Upper Mall.

The only other New Look stores specifically designed for men are in Manchester, Wigan and Portsmouth.

Fundraising dog walk helps pets

DUDLEY Vets4Pets surgery held a charity dog walk in aid of Penn Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) raising more than £200. Twenty dogs and their owners enjoyed a two-hour walk in the sunshine.

The walk started at the Vets4Pets practice, in Fisher Street, and continued along the canal path to Tividale Park before and then returned to the practice. All participants received a goody bag with a dog towel, treats, sweets, water and rosette.

Soul fans keep the faith at town hall

AN evening of Northern Soul music will keep the dance floor busy at Dudley Town Hall next weekend.

Five disc jockeys including Daz Dakin and Ian Gee will be playing rare soul records on Saturday, October 24, from 8pm to 1am, as a flavour of the legendary Wigan Casino will get dancers in a spin. Northern Soul music, originally popular in Northern and Midland clubs in the 1970s, is having a revival. Tickets are £7 available on (01384) 812812.

Women in industry

A NEW exhibition about women who worked in the glass industry in Stourbridge is opening next weekend.

The free exhibition is from Saturday, October 24, at the Red House Glass Cone in High Street, Wordsley.

Birmingham and Midlands Pastel Society is also displaying work there.

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IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

Half-baked celebrity television treatment

A NEW business operating in the West Midlands is offering a table service with a difference, staffed entirely with "topless or semi-naked butlers". The muscle-bound beefcakes pictured in the adverts aren't really my thing, but I'm prepared to be tolerant. As long as it's an equal opportunities employer, of course.

■■■

MUCH as I hate the nanny state telling us what to do, I dutifully complied and headed for Tesco at the weekend with a "bag for life" dangling off the hook at the back of my trolley. And after less than 10 minutes in the store, having left the trolley unattended for just a few seconds, it was gone.

Bags for life? Mine lasted one week.

■■■

AS Alan Sugar returns for another series of The Apprentice, he has immediately stepped into controversy by saying that nobody in the UK can truly describe themselves as poor if they have got mobile phones, microwave ovens and televisions.

Yes, it might stick in the craw being lectured on poverty from a billionaire. And he didn't help himself with his ignorant, geographically prejudiced aside that there may be "some people up north who are poor". But he is right, isn't he?

Mobile phones, microwaves and flat-screen TVs are all luxury items which we all managed perfectly well without just a few years ago.

I'm sure there are some genuinely poor people in the UK, and as a country we have a duty to give them all the support they need. But not many.

Many of the people who claim to be poor today would have been considered comfortably well-to-do just a generation ago, and struggling to pay for life's luxuries is not the same as living in poverty.

Describing everybody who simply happens be on a below-average income as "poor" not only cheapens the word. It is also a grave insult to those who truly are in need.

■■■

MEANWHILE, on Sunday BBC2 screened a programme about the history of Aston Martin. Now had it been fronted by a motoring expert, somebody who knows, for example, that you can't describe a car from the 1960s as 'vintage', then it would probably have been very good.

But it wasn't. It was presented by Paul Hollywood, who is a baker. So there was very little fresh insight into the subject matter, but a lot about him.

I know everyone is obsessed with the 'Bake Off' at the moment, but does every programme really need the celebrity treatment? Once in a while, it would be nice to hear from somebody who actually knows what they are talking about.

Proud of his roots, Oldbury's Frank Skinner

Wednesbury poet laureate, Brendan Hawthorne

Acclaimed Walsall poet, solicitor, Ian Henery

Walsall's most famous son, Noddy Holder

Showing the werld ow to spake proper

Ar, it's bostin' to be a Black Country mon, or wench, says **CLARE BUTLER,** as our unique dialect is celebrated

OW am ya? Fancy a loff and a chance to show the werld ow ter spake proper?

The Black Country dialect – it's bostin' ay it? And now our most popular sayings and slang terms are coming under the spotlight in National Dialect Weekend.

This year it will be Wednesbury hosting the annual event, with activities this week and over the weekend, featuring live music, stories and poems showcasing the huge range of English dialects.

The dulcet tones of Scousers, Mancunians, Mackems and Geordies will be ringing out alongside the Black Country tongue. Not, of course, to be confused with the neighbouring Birmingham accent.

There is nothing worse for a proud Black Country mon than being labelled a Brummie.

The accent often gets labelled 'thick', wrongly and unfairly. There's a certain knowing quality to a line delivered in a Black Country twang. Take comedian Frank Skinner, for instance. "When I was a kid I ran everywhere. Do kids still run these days? I thought all that glue sniffing might have slowed them down," he says.

Snooty

In the cut glass, received pronunciation tones of a London toff it would sound snooty, prejudiced and ignorant. But we know what Oldbury-raised Frank's saying. He's one of us.

Or how about Noddy Holder's old Banks's beer advert. "You can save your thankses, I'll have a pint of Banks's." Grammatically it should have every English teacher screaming.

But not around here, it makes perfect sense.

This year's National Dialect Weekend takes place from October 16 to 18. Dialect experts from around the country will be sharing their traditions and taking part in competitions and entertainment at Wednesbury Town Hall, featuring the first official Poet Laureate of Wednesbury, Brendan Hawthorne. The festivities kicked off last week, with a play, An Ox's Tail, which was performed by its author, Walsall poet, and solicitor, Ian Henery.

Brendan says: "The richness of language is to be celebrated and what better stage than the recently refurbished Town Hall in Wednesbury. We have a line-up of Black Country-based entertainment on Friday, starting at 7pm. We have competitions, followed by an evening of national entertainment on Saturday from 10am until 10pm and a guided walk on Sunday morning with local historian Ian Bott, meeting at 9.30am at Wednesbury Town Hall. Come along it'll be bostin'."

National Dialect Day began over 10 years ago by the then Chairman of the Lancashire Society Sid Calderbank who enjoyed travelling around the country performing Lancashire dialect songs and stories. Other dialect enthusiasts showed an interest and got involved and it became and annual event. Now extended to a weekend it travels round the country celebrating the best of Britain's dialects. As a precursor to the weekend, Brendan organised three events under the title A Street Full of Dialect at Wednesbury Library, looking at dialects from further afield.

The first was last Wednesday and involved Chinese dance, literature and songs performed in Mandarin and Cantonese by the Chinese Community Centre of Birmingham, with extracts of the play An Ox's Tail. The weekend itself will features the best Black Country fittle – faggots and peas, 'grey paes un baercon' with a vegetarian option if pre-ordered.

There will be a presentation on 'The Mercian Tung' and a trophy for the best piece of writing in the Black Country dialect.It's 18 years since Dudley Council decided to lighten the mood for drivers caught in the roadworks at Castle Gate with a sign that said: "If yowm saft enuff ter cum dahn 'ere agooin wum, yowr tay ull be spile't!!"

It didn't really matter that anyone visiting from almost anywhere else in the country wouldn't have had a clue what it meant.

The thing about the Black Country dialect is that we've always known what it is we're saying, even if no-one else does.

Now at least, on home turf, we can pit ourselves against the pretenders who claim theirs is the best dialect in Britain.

We know we'm bostin', now it's toime to shew it aer kid.

* **For further details and to register an interest in the National Dialect Weekend email Brendan Hawthorne on moncrow@blueyonder.co.uk**

The famous sign from some years ago, at roadworks in Dudley – can you understand the message?

SOME FAVOURITE WORDS AND SAYINGS

Bostin – meaning 'something to boast about', it's brilliant
Aer kid – friendly term for a family member, typically a younger sibling
Argy-bargy – having an argument or disagreement
Mucker – a close friend
Noggin – head
Havin a loff – sharing a joke with your mates
Ow bin ya? – first thing you say when meeting your friend in the pub to ask how they are
Round the Wrekin – taking the long way round
Blarting – crying or sobbing
Babby – baby, often shortenend to bab, as an alternative to 'love' or 'dear' as in 'ow bin ya, bab?'
It's a bit black over Bill's mother's – the sky in the distance is dark with rain

SO, how well do you know the Black Country dialect? A little quiz for you...

1. **What is a 'wench'?** A) An adjustable spanner B) A woman C) A mood
2. **What is a 'cakehole' ?** A) A bakery B) A tin C) A mouth
3. **If one is admiring another person's 'clobber', what are they referring to?** A) Clothes B) Fighting skills C) Tools
4. **If it's 'bostin' it is...** A) Broken B) Great C) At bursting point
5. **What is a 'bob-owler'?** A) A moth B) A horn C) An alarm D) A hat
6. **A 'cut' is what?** A) An injury B) A cake C) A canal
7. **'Donnies' are what?** A) Hands B) Kebabs C) Men
8. **If someone is 'yampy' they are...** A) Mad B) Whiney C) Sad
9. **If someone is 'half-soaked' they are...** A) Violent B) Drunk C) Slow-witted or lazy
10. **A 'fizzog' is what?** A) A face B) A sweet C) A drink

ANSWERS: 1. B; 2. C; 3. A; 4. B; 5. A; 6. C; 7. A; 8. A; 9. B; 10. A.

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It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

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We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

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In awe of veteran entertainer Des

I SEE Des O'Conner is doing a one man show at the Grand Theatre. My goodness Des, how do you do it?

I was first aware of Des O'Connor back in 1958. In those days, Black Country companies had annual bun fights where all employees were invited. Joseph Sankey, as it then was called (later GKN Sankey) hired the Civic Hall Wolverhampton, laid on free food, free drink and entertainment.

We had the allegedly world's strongest woman, Joan Rhodes (Mmm, once I'd seen her rip up a telephone directory, she became boring) and our old friend Des O' Connor. The only thing I remember about Des was his amazingly thick almost orange make up.

Whilst I'm not a particular fan, I am in awe of the man's longevity in the light entertainment business.

I shan't be at the show but I guess it will be a sell-out and well done to you Des; in your 80s but still up for it.

There's hope for me yet!

A M ETHERIDGE
Dudley

Memories of eccentric pub crimes

YOUR recent letter concerning the Gipsys Tent pub brought back memories of when it was owned and run by the wonderfully eccentric brothers Don and Bert Millard.

The lure of cheap rough cider and a clientele of local eccentrics and students gave rise to many happy if hazily remembered nights at the Gipsys Tent.

Bannings were a regular occurrence for crimes such as attempting to play the stools as bagpipes and, the most heinous of all, putting coal on the fire without permission.

Thankfully most bannings came with a fixed time limit according to the severity of the 'crime' — although local folklore has it that Robert Plant, the local rock star, was banned for life.

Although the atmosphere of the pub could never be recreated, it would be nice to keep the exterior facade as a reminder to the many people with fond memories of this wonderful pub.

D BAILEY
Oldbury

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL
dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Wolves scout was a true football man

I WAS saddened to read of the passing of former Wolves talent scout Geoff Blackwell, a football man who loved the game and had great enthusiasm for it.

Geoff spent many years as a scout for the academy as well being a valuable member of support staff, always willing to help the Wolves operation, be it scouting or driving players to and from the airport for the club.

It was always a pleasure to spend time in Geoff's company and enjoy conversation, the only topic being football.

I used to listen intently to the many stories on what life was like working with Ron Jukes and other football personalities.

Not only did he know the professional game inside out he also knew the non-league scene inside out too.

I remember being introduced to Geoff by the then Wolves academy director Chris Evans for the first time one evening down at Aldersley Stadium and straight away he said 'you're the Halesowen Town physiotherapist'.

He had obviously spotted me on his visit to the Grove to watch players – an eye for detail if ever there was one. We started talking football and from that day on he became a valuable friend and colleague.

A true football man and Wolves through and through.

GAVIN BLACKWELL
Tipton

Car parks could be free

JUST who do Sandwell Council think they are trying to fool? The car parks used to be free and were extensively used by shoppers.

Sandwell Council made them 'pay and display' car parks with the result that they then became less well used and, now, surplus to requirements.

If these car parks were once again made to be free, the car parks would, once more, be extensively used and traders might see an increase in their customer base. Cradley Heath is already a dying shopping centre with many empty shop units. The Tesco car park is for its customers.

The whole exercise was instigated by Sandwell Council to provide justification for selling off the land.

Shoppers with cars are going to shun pay car parks when they were once free.

M WALKER
Cradley Heath

Will he mind anachronism?

PETER Rhodes complains about the linguistic anachronisms of Downton Abbey. Perhaps he should turn his attention to an author who presents historical figures using language from years after their time. What are we to make of an author who presents King Henry V at Agincourt (1415) and King John (reigned 1199-1216) speaking the English of the late 16th Century? Absurdly he depicts Gaius Julius Caesar, assassinated 44BC, speaking English. This blunderer was some bloke from Stratford.

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Debut by Black Country rockers

ALBUM REVIEWS

by Leon Burakowski

BLACK Country band EofE (so-called because the name East of Eden was already taken) are maturing nicely with a muscular rock sound on their eponymous album that could appeal to Slam Dunkers into the likes of You Me At Six.

Originally EofE were a rather awkward-looking outfit pitched towards a pop audience, getting their first break supporting McBusted. I remember a bizarre mash up of Billie Jean with Smells Like Teen Spirit at the LG Arena.

But they've beefed up and their debut LP is aimed at an audience with real tattoos rather than wash-off tats.

What they still miss, however, is a killer tune, though Y.O.U and Ruins come close. Dudley's Tom Harris is a decent singer, the songs have good melodies and the guitars crash nicely. But this won't be the breakthrough.

Brummie rock legends **Duran Duran** return with their 14th studio album, **Paper Gods**, with a whole host of guest stars and a sound that is contemporary whilst also nodding to their 80s roots.

It's a patchy offering rather than a rip-roaring return to form but has brilliant flashes of the old Duran Duran magic. These include synth and strings gem Face For Today and fine vocals by Simon Le Bon on What Are The Chances and The Universe Alone (hints of Ordinary World melancholy).

The highly infectious single Pressure Off benefits from Nile Rodgers contributing choppy Chic-style guitar, a vocal from Janelle Monae (her second great guest appearance after Paolo Nutini's last album) and a liberal sprinkling of Mark Ronson's Uptown Funk influence.

Black Country band EofE with Tom Harris of Dudley (centre) have a self-titled debut

Other guests include Kiesza on Last Night In The City and Lindsay Lohan on the dismal Danceophobia (it sounds like a title Peter Andre would come up with). But best female vocal comes from the band's own backing singer Anna Ross, given a chance to shine alongside Le Bon on Butterfly Girl.

Duran Duran return to their home city on December 4 for a gig at the Genting Arena.

Essex band **Nothing But Thieves** have already got the stadium-ready rock anthems on their impressive self-titled debut and benefit from a barnstorming vocal performance from singer Conor Mason, whose emoting is on a par with Matt Bellamy. In fact the Southend lads supported Muse at their big Rome show.

The fiery, yearning Itch shows the five-piece at their best while other highlights include slinky rocker Drawing Pins, the operatic Excuse Me, pus Painkiller and If I Get High.

Check them out if you like Muse or Florence and the Machine, and catch them live at The Rainbow in Digbeth on October 28.

Summer festival favourites **Rudimental** pack solid beats and have an awesome array of guest singers (from rising star Ella Eyre to reggae veteran Max Romeo) on **We The Generation** but their second album lacks character, sounding like a club compilation. Ed Sheeran provides highlights with Blood Stream and Lay It All On Me.

New Order return with their first album in ten years, **Music Complete**, having lost one member (bassist Peter Hook) and regained an old one (keyboardist Gillian Gilbert). The album has contributions from The Chemical Brothers, Iggy Pop, Brandon Flowers and La Roux's Elly Jackson but that doesn't dilute its New Order feel.

Singularity hints at Joy Division darkness, People On The High Line recalls Hacienda hedonism and The Game is elegant electro-pop. New Order are in concert at Wolverhampton Civic Hall on November 24.

Sheffield's **Richard Hawley** returns to what he does best, mellow, moody and melancholy ballads with a 50s twang on **Hollow Meadows**. He's at The Institute in Digbeth on October 27.

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Classmates show they are able to help Kaine

Helping Kaine — staff and classmates at Netherton Bethany Tucker, Katie West, Dylan Stokes, Kaine's sister Kacey-Jo Wakefield (centre), Ceri Abbotts, Laura Pitcher and Tyler Finch

GENEROUS children at a Dudley primary school have raised nearly £6,000 for their poorly classmate.

Ten-year-old Kaine Kitson, who attends Netherton CofE Primary School, is currently recovering in Birmingham's Children Hospital after being diagnosed with a brain tumour in April.

Kaine's school friends and teachers rallied around to raise money for the hospital and the Ronald McDonald House Birmingham.

Teacher Melanie Harold said: "It has been very upsetting for everyone to see him get so poorly. He is a very bright little boy with so much to offer in class. Our teaching assistants got together to do something to raise money and awareness for the places that have helped him and his family."

The Highbridge Road school raised £5,784 via a sponsored walk, fun day, non-uniform day and bake sales.

Kaine's sister, Kacey-Jo Wakefield, eight, has been visiting him with their brother Zachery, 11. She said: "I love Kaine lots and hopefully he will make a quick recovery and be back home with us soon."

Kaine Kitson has inspired classmates

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2pm Zumbini pre school programme
6.15pm Zumba
7.20pm Insanity

Thursday
9.45am Trigger Point/Pilates with equipment
10am Elite Circuits
6.15pm Clubbercise Starts Thurs 22nd Oct Booking advised
6.35pm TJB Konga

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10.15am Mash Up - different class each week
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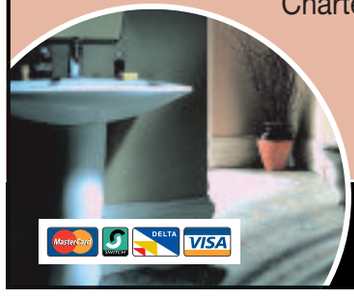

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COMPETITION

WHAT do Doctor Who's Tardis, Lord of the Ring's Gandalf, the seven wonders of the world, a woolly mammoth and three million LEGO bricks have in common? They'll all be at BRICK 2015, the UK's biggest LEGO show when it debuts at Birmingham's NEC from October 29 to November 1.

Celebrating all things LEGO, BRICK creates a haven for fans of all ages with amazing builds, interactive features and live LEGO building as well as some amazing LEGO models that have never been seen in the UK before.

Master builder and founder of BRICK 2015 Warren Elsmore will be bringing the Wonders of the World to the NEC including likes of the Great Wall of China, Stonehenge and the Grand Canyon. There will also be amazing creations from professional LEGO builders Bright Bricks, who will be bringing a life-size woolly mammoth and sabre-toothed tiger that have to been seen to be believed.

More than three million LEGO blocks in huge 'BRICK Pits' will encourage people of all ages to play and start building their own creation or they can help work on a larger build.

There's also the world's biggest consumer gaming area for the new LEGO Dimensions video game, a live stage filled with LEGO themed family fun, Guinness World Record attempts, a fantastic LEGO shop from Toys'R'Us, a LEGO Museum and a brilliant range of LEGO gifts and collectibles in BRICK Lane.

BRICK 2015 will be held from Thursday, October 29 to Sunday November 1 at Birmingham's NEC. Ticket prices start at £20 in advance with some VIP tickets still available. For more information as well as booking details, visit www.brick2015.com

A woolly mammoth created entirely from bricks will be one of the attractions

A Lord of the Rings scene – in Lego

BRICK 2015
NEC, Birmingham
29th Oct-1st Nov 2015

The Chronicle has teamed up with the organisers to offer a total of 10 pairs of tickets to BRICK 2015. To stand a chance of winning, just answer this simple question.

Which master builder is the founder of BRICK 2015?

Send your answers, with your name, address and daytime contact number to: Brick competition, Chronicle series, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. Closing date is October 21.

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53ft-high building is an 'appalling blunder'

A NEW building dominating the skyline in Kingswinford has been blasted by residents, who say the project is a blight on the landscape.

The 53ft-high structure is in the early stages of its build but angry residents said they were not informed about the development by food distributor Kilo which was approved in April.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, cabinet member of economic development and planning, said letters were sent out to almost 50 homes and notices put up at the site in Ham Lane.

Mr Pearson, of nearby Hawkeswell Drive, said: "We have not been consulted and neither have the residents most affected in Keyes Drive."

Councillor Natalie Neale said she was astonished, adding: "The building is absolutely awful and it has appeared out of nowhere. I'm devastated for the local residents. I've never seen anything as big as this right next to somebody's back garden.

"It's not the fault of the applicant in any way, as they just went through the planning process. The council should have known how close it would be to the residential areas."

Dudley South MP Mike Wood said: "How on earth was this building recommended for approval without a full consultation exercise involving residents whose properties this structure now towers over? Having contacted the council it is clear this is their mistake and we look to them to now do what they can along with the developer to help those residents most affected by this appalling blunder."

Kilo declined to comment.

The 53ft-high new building in Kingswinford has horrified residents who say they were not informed

Give us friendship but not your laws

SUPPORTERS hoping for a European Union exit have launched a campaign to rally support as moves towards a referendum date inch closer.

The Better Off Out initiative was launched at an event in Sedgley with calls for Britain to leave.

West Midlands MEP Bill Etheridge told the gathering that the country only needs friendship from the EU, but should be in control of its laws and trade agreements.

"We want to put all our resources into the campaign for UK independence in preparation for when a referendum date is set. We want to get some good positive messages out to the people, such as, we want to make our own decisions.

"We are mobilising the people to tell them that we are ready to roll when the time comes," he added.

The informal launch held at the White Lion Pub, in Bilston Street, featured former Ludlow Tory MP Christopher Gill, who opposed the Maastricht Treaty becoming British law in 1992. Mr Gill, 79, said: "We want to spread the word about the importance of wanting to leave the EU."

New move to make youngsters work ready

A NEW project will be launched aiming to stop young people joining the ranks of the unemployed in Dudley borough.

More than 5,000 people are claiming Jobseeker's Allowance in the borough.

Youth education and employment charity Believe in Young People wants to help 11 to 18-year-olds prepare for their future careers. The scheme will highlight opportunities and develop their key skills and behaviours while still in school or at college.

by Andrew Turton

Officials are already working with Holly Hall Academy in Dudley and Ridgewood High School in Wollaston, Stourbridge.

They are now seeking to reach out to 24 additional schools and colleges in the Dudley area.

The charity is working to provide more than 800 one-week work experience placements at companies across the West Midlands.

The charity's chief executive Tanja Kuveljic said the organisation wants to 'instil a belief in young people'

"Our programme gives young people the best possible opportunity to be employed in a suitable role, which will maximise their potential and ultimately reduce youth unemployment," she said.

"Our approach has been to simplify and join up best practice between local employers and schools while focusing on the learner at all times.

"Now we want to do more and ensure that the supply of work-ready young talent does meet demand at both a local and national level.

"We are now inviting more schools and colleges in Dudley and Stourbridge to join us as partners by registering their students and integrating the programme into their curriculum, which will improve and measure student progression and outcomes."

The charity is already working with Holly Hall Academy and Ridgewood High School.

She added: "This expansion is being made in partnership with our national employer partners."

These include Costa, Hilton Worldwide, Premier Inn, Babylon, Jurys Inn and Mitchells and Butlers who are committed to investing in their communities.

National Apprenticeship Service spokesman, Seymour Pearman added: "It's increasingly important for young people to be exposed to the world of work. Believe in Young People is able to build a crucial bridge between schools, colleges and employers."

Call 01908 695560 or visit www.biyp.org/home/join for details.

Stick to the canal code, visitors told

PEOPLE are being urged to take care when using towpaths, with canal bosses calling for users to 'be courteous to one another'.

The Canal and River Trust, which cares for 2,000 miles of waterways in England and Wales, say people are visiting the West Midlands' canals more and more.

Peter Mathews CMG, chairman of the West Midlands Waterway Partnership for the Canal and River Trust, said: "For many people our towpaths are among their most precious green spaces, antidotes to the pace and stress of the modern world and places to relax and unwind.

"Today they are more popular than ever, with more investment in improvements and better signage, but with that success there can also be problems."

He added: "We want to encourage everyone to remember to slow down and be courteous to one another so that we can all enjoy the space."

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On the sea of love with Starsailor

Starsailor, Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton

ANTHEMS came thick and fast as James Walsh's soaring angelic tones led Starsailor on a journey across 15 years of amazing tunes.

If proof were needed that guitar-based indie music is still very much alive, there was support from up-and-comers Judas (think early U2) and The Sherlocks, a tight combo living in the shadow of the Arctic Monkeys.

When the headliners appeared and it was straight into a wealth of melodic classics such as Tie Up My Hands and Lullaby from first album Love Is Here, slotting in well with harder-edged later material. It seemed Starsailor wanted to display their own indie leanings with even some of the older songs beefed up, much to the delight of the highly appreciative crowd.

Before performing their stand-out track, the mesmeric Alcoholic, James told the audience that it was usually at this part of the evening that things really take off, but "you're already there."

With its relentless riff, Four To the Floor was saved for the encore and before a rocked up Good Souls. James made a special dedication that each and every one of us were worthy of the title. Ahh! I bet he says that to all the audiences.

Graeme Andrew

REVIEWS

Friends are bawdy and brilliant

Fisherman's Friends Town Hall, Birmingham

THERE are no six packs in this group, with the Fisherman's Friends you get the full barrel.

This was just one of the quips from the Cornish singing group's front man Jon Cleave.

The wonderful acoustics of Brum's Town Hall were perfect, for the lusty, gutsy and ribald songs of the Port Isaac choir, joined by newest member Toby Lobb.

Cleave is cheeky, deadpan, boyish and impish during his introductions to the songs which sing of life on the sea, living on the coast and a whole host of carnal activities which are mostly cheekily suggested rather than explicit.

They kicked off with a saucy version of Blow The Man Down with Cleave's distinctive and bootstrap voice telling the tale of sexual exploits with a woman of questionable character.

It the set the tone for the night which was fun, full of energy but not for the prudish.

Danny Farragher

Peace in our time

Peace, Splashh, Yak, Wolverhampton Civic

WORCESTERSHIRE rock band Peace ended their UK tour with a triumphant Midlands homecoming.

First up were two bands with Wolverhampton connections. Psychedelic-grunge trio Yak fronted by Wulfrunian Oliver Burslem made an awesome noise. The blistering Hungry Heart left us hungry for more. Anglo-Aussie shoegazers Splashh — Wulfrunian Tom Beal on bass — impressed with their melodic and moody psych sound. Check out the majestic swirling All I Wanna Do.

Peace have just two albums to their name but have matured into a slickly accomplished and capable band with a confident frontman in Harry Koisser. Opening with Oh You from latest album Happy People, that got a mostly teenaged audience moshing like there was no (school) tomorrow.

There is more to this band than, admittedly brilliant, guitar riffs. Happy People has a funky undertow (listen to that bass on World Pleasure) and develops the wry humour of their 2013 debut In Love. In concert the band showed a knowledge of rock history older than most of their fans with a solid cover of Led Zeppelin's Since I've Been Loving You.

Highlights included the ferocious I'm A Girl, teen angst number Perfect Skin, Follow Baby and the pulsating Bloodshake. The 90-minute set encores were Love Sick, Higher Than The Sun and funky epic World Pleasure, before they left to a mass salute of peace signs.

Leon Burakowski

Gengahr's fretboard fireworks

Gengahr, Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath

NAMED after a grinning Pokemon character, this London band will put a smile on the face for anyone longing for a favourite new rock band.

Gengahr's debut album A Dream Outside saw them compared to Tame Impala and MGMT and it translated well to a live environment, singer Felix Bushe's plaintive falsetto rising over the psychedelic squalls and surf twangs of guitar-her o-in-waiting John Victor.

Quirky and with the odd disconcerting lyric (Fill My Gums With Blood), Gengahr are more than sufficiently melodic to appeal outside the indie ghetto and have won fans by paying their dues as tour supports and on the festival scene. 'You were the best band at Reading' shouted someone in the crowd at this authentic above-the-pub rock venue.

This first headline tour reveals a band that aren't just promising, they are delivering, with anthem Heroine, the fretboard fireworks of Embers and woozily addictive She's A Witch. **LB**

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Website help to stay independent

AN ONLINE service offering advice to help people live independently for longer has been launched in Dudley.

The borough's Living Well Feeling Safe Partnership has created the tool, which provides information about equipment and support available to those who are struggling to live independently at home.

Users will be able to carry out an online self-assessment about their individual living circumstances, then the service will provide a personalised report about the support available to them and where they can buy any suitable equipment.

It also offers advice and support to those who experience problems with daily activities, such as climbing stairs, washing, dressing and cooking.

The site has been developed by the partnership and the Disability Living Foundation (DLF).

People can access Living Well Feeling Safe at the www.lwfsonline.org.uk website.

Move for all officers to wear body cameras after tests

BODY cameras are set to transform the working lives of police officers in the West Midlands.

Trials in Wolverhampton and parts of Birmingham proved so successful the force now aims to have all response officers wearing one by April.

The pilot scheme proved that the cameras – worn on the chest area of the officer's protective vest and the size of a standard smartphone – can produce major changes in significant areas of the job.

They cut the number of incidents where force had to be used.

There was a rise in prosecutions, charges and early guilty pleas from suspects after evidence of what actually happened was provided by the video.

A report to the Strategic Policing and Crime Board of West Midlands Police stated: "Ongoing austerity measures imposed by central government mean the force must take advantage of opportunities to improve efficiency and reduce or prevent demand.

"Body-worn cameras present such an opportunity. It is hoped they will be issued to all response officers by April 2016."

The six-month trial in Birmingham covered the equivalent of 430 shifts and only involved officers wearing high-visibility stab vests. They were not used in public order situations, the policing of football matches or firearms operations.

As a result there was an overall ten per cent rise in suspects being charged plus a nine per cent increase – to 66 per cent – of those accused of a criminal offence taking giving an early guilty, which offers a reduction in sentence.

All frontline Staffordshire Police officers were given body cams last year. A total of 530 cameras have been provided by the force, costing £330,000.

Officers with video badges

Half-term fun at leisure centre

CHILDREN can take part in fun and games at a Stourbridge leisure centre during half term.

Crystal Leisure Centre in Bell Street is to host a packed week of events from October 26 to November 1. The Dudley Council facility has a swimming pool with slides, waves and rapids, open every day.

Councillor Rachel Harris, cabinet member for health and wellbeing, said: "No matter what the weather is like there will be something on offer at our leisure centres to keep young ones busy and active. As part of our Let's Get campaign we're encouraging everyone in Dudley to be physically active. These sessions at Crystal Leisure Centre offer youngsters the perfect chance to exercise whilst having fun."

Call (01384) 812800 or visit www.dudley.gov.uk/sport website.

Jade's happy birthday from fantasy heroes

Doctor Who fan Jade Wootton is joined by Spider-Man

DOCTOR Who's Tardis has been spotted in the Black Country with Marvel Comics superhero Spider-Man getting in on the act.

The Tardis – lovingly restored by Sedgley resident Paul Wootton – was on show in the Wooton family's garden in Barley Close to mark his daughter Jade's 18th birthday.

She said having the Tardis around had made her birthday 'extra special'.

"Everyone was really surprised when they saw it," she said. "I love Doctor Who, I watch it all the time so it was great. My birthday was absolutely amazing."

The entire family are Doctor Who fanatics but Paul's son, Jerome, also has a passion for comic books and Spider-Man in particular. Paul said: "My son had just ordered the Spiderman suit from the United States. We got him up the Tardis using a ladder at the back and he was up there posing as if he had just landed on top of the roof."

Paul bought the Tardis from BBC storagefor £300 in 2014. It is believed the box was used for filming for episodes of the classic series in the 1980s.

Hip hop hooray for students on stage

A PIONEERING educational arts programme will see dance students taking to the stage of the Grand Theatre in Wolverhampton.

The theatre has announced a new partnership with internationally acclaimed Hip Hop dance company ZooNation. The collaboration will offer opportunities for Key Stage 4 dance students across 12 schools to work with professional choreographers.

The schools will develop and present their own School Showcase at the Grand Theatre in January, and following the showcase, dancers will create a 'curtain raiser' routine, choreographed by ZooNation to be performed at the Grand before the professionals perform.

Business studies students from schools and colleges will gain marketing experience from staff at the Grand Theatre, designing a campaign to promote and publicise the showcase.

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Praise for town unity get-together

AN event to show how Dudley is united and despite far right protests in the town centre has been praised by the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Dudley commUNITY event, which was held last month, was organised in the wake of three protests in the town this year over a proposed mosque.

Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson said: "It was good to see us policing Dudley in a positive way rather than people having to retreat from people coming from outside the town and trying to create hostility where there is none."

Activities on the family-friendly day had included music, dance, and drumming performances complemented by craft stalls, fun fair, face painting and charity mascots.

Wishes come true for bats

A SMOOTHIE maker donated to Dudley Zoo has been used to serve up a fruit feast for bats.

Trainee keeper Cara Sheldon has whizzed up several fruit smoothies for the group of more than 70 bats. The treat has gone down a storm in the Castle Creatures exhibit.

The smoothie maker was one of several items given to the zoo by animal lovers Lee Hamilton, of Glasgow, and Londoner Luke Baker via an Amazon wish list.

FOCUS ON DUDLEY TOWN CENTRE

Market fees cut in bid to encourage more traders

STALL fees are being cut at Dudley Market in a bid to encourage more traders to set up in the town.

Traders have taken over the day-to-day running of the historic market from Dudley Council and are drawing up a new rent structure in the wake of a £6.7m revamp.

Dudley Council has retained ownership of the market but traders have taken over the day-to-day running of the market.

Report by Rob Cox

A new company called Dudley Market Traders started running the market this month.

Managing director, Len Lenihan, said: "For the last two years we have had concessionary rates while the work was ongoing. That was something we negotiated with the council. That has ended now and the council were going to re-instate the proper rent structure.

Reduced

"What we are going to do is to actually lower the rent from the end of this month on four of the six days we operate.

"It won't be down to the concessionary rate but traders will benefit from lower rates."

The reduced rates will initially be targeted at those days where trading on the market is quiet. On Monday the price for a stall will fall from £14 to £10, on Tuesday and Thursday it will fall from £15 to £12 and on Friday it will drop from £19 to £12.

Saturday will remain the prime day for traders with an outdoor spot costing £21 and indoor stalls priced at £18 for the day.

In an extra boost for traders, all stalls will cost just £10 between January and March.

Mr Lenihan added: "These are considerable reductions. We are hoping to increase attendances and then to look at the other days and reduce them too.

"The idea is to bring the rents down to a lower level across the board."

Stallholders already plan to boost festive takings by opening on Sundays from October 25 up until Christmas.

Cillian Murphy and Paul Anderson on a break from filming at the Black Country Living Museum

Sneak peaky at TV stars on museum set

STAR actors have returned to Dudley for the latest stint of filming for hit gangster drama Peaky Blinders.

Cillian Murphy, who plays Tommy Shelby in the crime epic, was spotted shooting scenes for the third series at the Black Country Living Museum on Friday.

His character is the leader of Birmingham's infamous Peaky Blinders gang in the hit drama set between the wars.

Other characters on set last week included Tommy Shelby's brothers John, Arthur and Michael, played by Paul Anderson, Joe Cole and Finn Cole respectively.

The show's stars have been staying in the area.

One fan spotted Irish actor Cillian Murphy, who also starred in the movies 28 Days Later, Sunshine and Batman Begins, at Dudley's Showcase Cinema where he had apparently been to see The Martian.

Himalayan trek to help White House

A BLACK Country woman will be trekking across the Indian Himalayas to raise money for The White House Cancer Support in Dudley.

Sharon Blake will be taking on some of the toughest terrain and camping in basic shelters whilst undertaking the self-funded 70 kilometres trek in November.

She said: "I had the crazy idea to trek the Indian Himalayas in order to raise money for The White House. I will welcome any help to help me reach my fundraising goal, support this incredibly worthwhile charity and give me some much-needed encouragement to tackle those terrifying mountains."

Intrepid Sharon in 2001 trekked the Great Wall of China for charity.

To donate visit www.localgiving.com/fundraising/sharontreks website.

Black History Month event

A MUSIC event with Caribbean food is just one of the events taking place in Dudley to celebrate Black History Month.

The theme for this year's event – which takes place this month – is past and present. Events include local history talks, free taster sessions for an ancestry website and a variety of events celebrating black history. A free music and food tasting event at Dudley Library takes place on Saturday.

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DUDLEY DID YOU KNOW?

- Dudley is often regarded as the capital of the Black Country and some early definitions have said the Black Country is anywhere within a five mile radius of the Castle or within' an hour's weary trudge' of Dudley!
- Originally made of wood and later rebuilt in stone Dudley Castle fell into ruin following a fire in 1750 and was converted into a zoo in 1937 by the Earl of Dudley.
- A reported 250,000 people attempted to visit the site on the first day of opening!
- In 1821 oil street lamps were replaced with gas. Piped water was introduced to those houses that could afford it, and in 1834 Dudley was provided with a horse drawn fire engine!
- During the Industrial revolution Dudley was well known for Coal mining and its Glass and Iron industry with chains, nails, fire grates, vices, boilers and anchors all being made in the town.
- In the 1920's trams in Dudley were replaced by trolley buses (which ran on overhead wires like trams but did not need rails) In turn the trolley buses were replaced by motor buses. The last trolleybus ran in 1967!
- In World War Two Dudley was bombed on several occasions. On 19th November 1940 a Luftwaffe bomb demolished a public house in the town centre and damaged several nearby buildings including St Thomas's Church and the then, new Co Operative Department Store!
- The famous Black Country Museum opened in 1975

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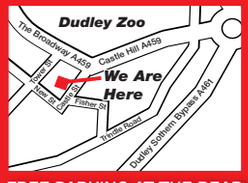

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Hoax 999 calls cost taxpayer £11k and put lives at risk

HOAX calls to the Black Country's fire service over the school summer holidays cost the taxpayer more than £11,000 – with the number of false alarms up from last year.

West Midlands Fire Service received 41 hoax calls in Wolverhampton, Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall this summer, with 26 attended by crews, costing an estimated £428 per hour.

There was also a rise in calls to West Midlands Ambulance Service during the period – July 24 to August 31 – with the team dealing with 70.

West Midlands Police, however, saw a drop in hoax and abandoned calls.

The emergency services have hit out callers who disrupt services.

For hoax calls to the fire service, Walsall had the most pranksters with 14 calls and six attended. In Wolverhampton, seven of nine hoaxes were attended, with eight out of 10 attended in Sandwell and five of eight attended in Dudley.

Jailed

Last year's summer break saw crews receive 38 hoax calls in the Black Country and 39 in 2013.

Fire service spokesman Neil Spencer said: "Hoax callers who are caught by the police can be fined and jailed. They put the lives of our fire crews and members of the public at risk. It means we send fire engines out, unnecessarily, in emergency mode," he added.

West Midlands Ambulance Service received 70 calls, up by 12 from last year but down from the the140 in twice-as-bad 2013.

Ambulance service spokesman Chris Kowalik said: "It is extremely frustrating to have to deal with hoax calls when all we want to do is get the right help to the right people as quickly as possible."

Figures were released under the Freedom of Information Act.

Families get ready for fun on the canal

THOUSANDS of people are set to flock to the Black Country this weekend for a special narrowboat festival on the canal.

Stourbridge Navigation Trust is hosting its annual open weekend on Saturday and Sunday. It takes place alongside the Stourbridge Town Canal Arm at the Bonded Warehouse in Canal Street.

Dozens of narrowboats will be lining the canal near the 18th century warehouse.

The free event offers a wide range of activities, and regularly sees more than 10,000 narrowboat enthusiasts in attendance.

The trust's finance director Chris Dyche said preparations for the event were going well.

A craft fair, children's rides, display of vintage cars, steam engines and refreshments – including a beer tent – will be taking place all over the weekend to entertain visitors.

Ain't no mountain high enough

Peak condition — fundraiser and charity shop founder Mary Law, who completed a walk up Snowdon with, from left, her 80-year-old husband Bill, Ian Halls, Ian Edgington, and ARC Aid chairman Stuart Baker

AN adventurous charity shop owner scaled the heights of Mount Snowdon to raise funds for Mesothelioma research.

Mary Law, who completed the walk up the highest Welsh peak with husband Bill, aged 80, and friends Ian Halls and Ian Edgington, raised nearly £2,000 for charity.

She has undertook a number of charity events, including a sky dive in 2011, to raise funds into the research of the disease following the death of her son, Roy Shipley, in 2010. Mr Shipley passed away at the age of 51, after a career working as an electrician in factories where he was exposed to asbestos.

Mrs Law, who runs the Arc Aid charity shop in Dudley's New Street, said: "The weather was perfect."

School wants to move into modern home

A PRIMARY school offering 420 places and a nursery will replace the smallest school in Sandwell, under ambitious proposals.

Sacred Heart Primary will move from its current base in Victoria Road, Tipton, to the purpose-built building within half a mile off Sedgley Road East.

The school would occupy a site the size of nearly two football pitches next to the Coneygre Youth Arts Centre.

Proposals submitted to Sandwell Council say the new school – which could open a year from now – will tackle a shortage of primary school places in the area.

Sacred Heart headteacher Melanie Gee said: "Having a purpose-built state-of-the-art school will be great for children and the local community.

"We will be able to offer places to over 300 more children to meet the local demand. We really hope these plans are approved so we can start looking forward to the new school building.

"If planning permission is given we plan to start on-site in January 2016 with an anticipated completion date of mid-October 2016."

The existing site in Victoria Road is a small 1920s former church school deemed no longer fit for purpose by council chiefs. The school currently has 112 pupils aged three to 11.

Drivers face parking ban over clogged road

MOTORISTS are set to be banned from parking across pavements and grass verges in Cradley.

Dudley Council is considering introducing the parking ban on a section of Netherend Lane, near its junction with Apperley Way, following complaints from residents who say parked cars are clogging up the pavement.

But objections have been raised by other residents who fear the move will just move the problem to side streets.

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Councils helping to keep hedgehogs safe

SANDWELL and Dudley councils have pledged to support campaigners in their efforts to protect hedgehogs in the Black Country.

Willows Hedgehog Rescue, dedicated to rehabilitation and release of native European Hedgehogs, has joined forces with councils to raise awareness of the dangers that brush cutters and 'strimmers' can pose to the animals.

Hundreds of hedgehogs every year are seriously injured, sometimes fatally, by the use of trimmers or 'strimmers' and many hundreds of hoglets (young hedgehogs) are orphaned by gardening activities.

Darren Jones, from Sandwell Council's grounds maintenance, said: "Sandwell Council's grounds maintenance department is committed to safeguarding wildlife within the borough.

Extensive

"We no longer apply weedkiller to, or strim the base of, our hedgerows. We also restrict the cutting back of hedgerows and shrubs to times outside the nesting bird season."

Charlie Walker, co-founder of Willows, added: "Our aim is to make all operators aware of the danger that strimmers can pose to wildlife."

Councillor Hilary Bills, Dudley's cabinet member for the environment, said: "During our extensive green care work across the borough we always take account of all wildlife habitat and their safety.

"We are happy to help Willows to highlight this important issue."

Awareness literature and posters have been provided to the councils along with a 'wildlife aware' warning triangle that will be fitted to all line and brush cutters in use.

Jayne Lawrence from Willows said: "Councils are large scale users of strimming equipment and maintain large expanses of hedgerow and verges in and around our towns and cities. These areas provide important habitat for hedgehogs.

"While leaving areas wild is preferable for wildlife, where they do need to be cut operators need to be aware of the potential danger for wildlife if the area is not checked first."

"We are extremely grateful to the organisations that are working alongside us," she added.

For more information about the project and the organisations involved log onto www.willowshedgehogrescue.co.uk

Sandwell's ground care team, from left, Stewart Watts, Jayne Lawrence, David Nock, Barry Scott

New £150m resort ready to open doors to the public at NEC

THE £150 million Resorts World Birmingham will open its doors for the first time next week.

Wednesday, October 21, will see the resort on the National Exhibition Centre site coming to life with retailers including Next Outlet, Nike Factory Store and GAP Outlet opening.

Over following weeks Resorts World Birmingham will gather momentum as more and more of the resort's outlet shops, bars, restaurants and other facilities welcome guests.

The 11-screen Cineworld, which includes a purpose-built IMAX auditorium, will open on October 23 in time for the eagerly-awaited new James Bond movie Spectre, while the four star Genting Hotel will welcome guests from November 2.

There will be 18 bars and restaurants at Resorts World including TGI Friday's and Pizza Express and new names such as the Robata Bar and Grill specialising in Asian cuisine, the New York influenced High Line Bar and Lounge and the World Bar which is located opposite the Genting Arena. Resorts World Birmingham will also play host to the Genting International Casino which will open on October 26, as well as the conference and banqueting facility the VOX.

Website www.resortsworldbirmingham.co.uk will provide information on the resort including special events, parking, opening hours and offers. Genting UK president and chief operating officer Peter Brooks said: "We have a full programme of exciting events between our opening day and the end of the year."

Surge in complaints to police watchdog

THE number of cases referred to the Independent Police Complaints Commission by the West Midlands force has soared, official figures reveal.

There were 90 referrals between April 1 and June 30 compared to 46 during the same period last year, a report to the Strategic Policing and Crime Board has disclosed.

by John Scott

The largest rise is in the category entitled 'deaths following police contact' – up from 10 to 22. Sexual offences have increased from one to six.

Chief Supt Andrew Nicholson, head of West Midlands Police Professional Standards department explained in the report: "There has been a significant increase in IPCC referrals during this reporting period.

"Death following police contact is of the utmost importance to the public and the force.

"The majority of the increase in referrals in this category involves missing persons. As these involve police contact any subsequent death is a mandatory referral."

Confidence

He added: "There is a shift in the reporting of sexual offending with victims having greater confidence to come forward. Generally serious sexual offences are where officers or staff are accused of an offence and require mandatory referral.

"The increase shown here relates to an historical allegation of sexual abuse prior to the officer joining our force; an historic allegation against a retired officer, however it relates to a period when the officer was still serving and three referrals relating to one officer for 'on duty conduct.'

"All of these matters are currently subject of either live investigation or criminal proceedings."

Between April 1 and June 30 there were 306 complaints against West Midlands Police from the public compared with 271 over the same period 12 months earlier.

But Mr Nicholson pointed out: "There is an increase of 35 complaints but the assessment team have improved their efficiency with regards to the timeliness of recording complaints.

"It is reasonable to expect this uplift to flatten throughout the performance year as the improved efficiency becomes business as usual and for the final figures to be broadly in line with those recorded last year."

Movie to help bees

A CHARITY screening of a new animated movie is being held at Dudley Showcase cinema, a week before its nationwide release. Maya the Bee will be shown at the Castlegate Park cinema at 10.30am on Sunday and proceeds go to the British Beekeepers' Association via the Friends of the Honey Bee charity. Tickets are £5. See www.showcasecinemas.co.uk/films/maya-the-bee-movie for details.

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Dorothy Horton 'crowned' by Mayor John Davies in Boulton Square on June 2, 1953

Wesley Methodist Church in 1906 with a new frontage

The unveiling of the town's first war memorial at the Victory Club in 1919

The fire service of 1882 at Crowthers Yard, Paradise Street

Terry Price with Professor Carl Chinn, guest at the launch

Popular Price town history book draws 2,000 to launch at church

MORE than 2,000 history buffs took a trip down memory lane at the launch of a new book celebrating the history of West Bromwich.

People packed into Wesley Methodist Church, in High Street, on to pick up a copy of the book, called West Bromwich Remembered.

It has been researched and written by historian Terry Price, aged 76, and features more than 300 images of the town and surrounding areas in days gone by.

Mr Price was on hand at the launch to sign copies of the book and answer any questions.

And he was joined at the event by historian and Express & Star columnist Professor Carl Chinn who chatted with visitors for more than three hours.

People shared their stories of the town in the past and looked through the book reminiscing over old times and pointing out people they knew. Around 1,500 copies of the book were sold at the launch event which Mr Price said was 'absolutely fantastic'.

MEMORY LANE

Report by Lee Watton

Among the images in the book, which has taken around two years to compile, is a shot of the Lewisham Hotel taken in 1961. It is now the Desi Junction.

Other selections include events that took place in the town to celebrate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II on June 2, 1953, such as Dorothy Horton being crowned by West Bromwich mayor John Davies in Boulton Square.

Another shows bomb damage in Clive Street during the Second World War and the unveiling of the town's first war memorial in 1919. There are also photographs of Wesley Methodist Church, which was the venue for the book launch, as seen at different stages throughout its history.

Mr Price, who has self-published the book, said he was delighted with the reception it had received.

"We had around 2,000 people come through during the day and around 1,500 copies were sold. It was absolutely fantastic," he said.

Stories

"Carl chatted to residents and also signed the books. People shared their stories of the town with us both. It was a lovely event."

People unable to attend the launch can still get a copy of the book by calling Mr Price on 01922 635891, and it is available to anyone who inquires for the discount price of £9.99.

It is the eighth volume to have been written by Mr Price since 2000 – and his last, at least for the time being.

"I think this will be the final book I will do. I have said this after the last few volumes, but people have since convinced me to do another. So I never say never," he said. "However I think I am ready to retire from it now. I am really pleased people have enjoyed all my books so much and they have definitely built up a following.

"If I do change my mind and decide to write another I am going to take a nice long rest first."

His previous works include three volumes on Great Bridge with the remaining books focusing on West Bromwich.

Mr Price, who worked as a TV engineer for many years, said it took around two years to research and compile the books.

Mr Price said he had been interested in history since he was at school and his parents had nurtured this.

"Really my interest in history stems from my parents," he said.

"They were born in 1897 and 1899 so they were able to tell me a lot about what the area was like during the early part of the 20th century when they were growing up."

Mr Price said donations would be made to charities in the area from the proceeds of the book.

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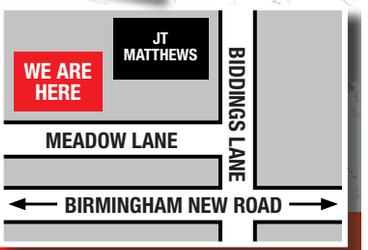

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70s struggles are captured on stage

REVIEW

Anita and Me, Birmingham Rep

FROM the Black Country to Bollywood. Meera Syal's much-loved novel – and later film – translated to the stage at Birmingham Rep.

Only a few days into its run the Sold Out signs were up. And there were no teething problems from the cast or setting either.

Author Syal based the book on her experiences of growing up in only Punjabi family in the mining village of Essington in the 70s, renamed Tollington for the purpose of her novel.

Much of it she admits was fabricated and, although it's clear some of it is embellished, the key context remains – the clash of cultures and the choice between one's family and best friend, all this against the backdrop of casual racism and the threat of bulldozers ready for the onset of the motorway network.

Wedge

Significantly, it is about finding an identity and coming of age, and this Tanika Gupta adaptation expertly captures this.

In seeking to become best friends with the poverty-stricken Anita, Meena loses sight of her middle-class educated, hard-working Indian upbringing – which threatens to drive a wedge between her and her family. She is trying to fit in, but finds herself having to make a key decision as events unfold.

According to Syal's original work, music played a big part in the the family's 1970s household and that becomes significant in the stage adaptation, resulting in spontaneous sing-alongs and leading ultimately to the Bollywood-style finale – but all perfectly delivered.

Jalleh Aizadeh and Mandeep Dhillon as Anita and Meena in rehesrsals

The chemistry between title characters Mandeep Dhillon (Meena) and Jalleh Aizadeh as Anita is clear for all to see, but it would be unfair to single out just those two from an accomplished cast. Joseph Drake is excellent, even down to the local accent, as Sam Lowbridge.

Meena's parents Ayesha Dharker and Ameet Chana can take credit for their performances, while for me, Yasmin Wilde's one particular solo scene as Namina, was one of the highlights of the whole performance.

Fans of Phoenix Nights can also enjoy the performance of Barbara Nice, aka Janice Connolly.

With comedy, hard-hitting and poignant scenes, it will make you laugh, it will make you think and has the potential to make you cry .

Anita and Me runs at the Rep until October 24.

Mark Shipp

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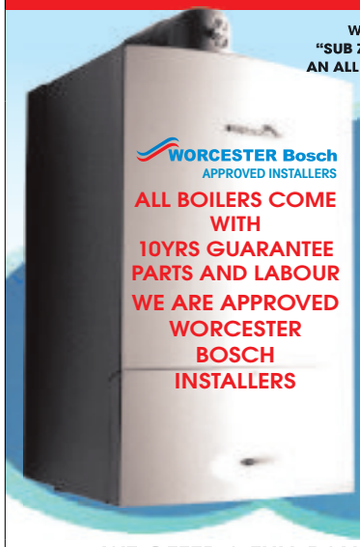

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Christopher Handley – 'comfy'

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Councillor John Reynolds takes a seat on the bench in Prncess Street to catch up with the latest news

Christine Rose – 'nice, but cold'

Charles Edwards – 'too much money'

Keith Harris – 'need more seats'

Costly bench is talking point

IT'S the pricey imported pew that forms the centrepiece of the big city centre revamp.

Now the people of Wolverhampton have had their say on the £20,000 granite bench that has been installed outside the Betfred bookies in the newly pedestrianised Princess Street.

The bench, hand crafted in China, is split into two curved parts that face in opposite directions and features an engraving evoking Wolverhampton's history with an extract from Robert Plot's 1686 tome The Natural History of Staffordshire.

But the inscription was lost on Christine Rose, aged 68, from Merridale, who said: "I can't really understand the inscription or see its relevance. As for the bench, it is a bit cold to sit on but it looks nice."

Funding came from Section 106 money – an agreement by developers to contribute funding towards projects that benefit the community as part of their planning permission. But even though it has not cost taxpayers anything, the high price tag is still a talking point.

Charles Edwards, aged 58, from Whitmore Reans, said: "I don't understand why they would spend £20,000 on a bench.

"It does look good but it is just a bench and that is too much money."

The bench has been described by council bosses as a combination of an art feature with street furniture.

Councillor John Reynolds, cabinet member for the city's economy, said it was a welcome addition.

"It is one of those quite stunning and really unusual things, and I think people will stop and look at it and wonder what's it doing in Wolverhampton," he said.

"The bench is art put in a place where people wouldn't expect to see it."

Sheila Pratt, 70, from Bradmore, said: "I think it is absolutely rubbish."

But Christopher Handley, aged 24, from Wednesfield, said: "It is comfy and relaxing to have a sit on."

Keith Harris, aged 73, from Codsall, said: "I think it is great. We need more seats and places to relax in town."

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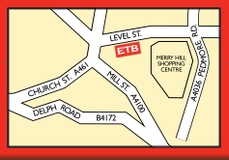

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Beach massacre survivor speaks out over tragedy

A BLACK Country teenager has spoken for the first time of the Tunisia beach shootings that killed his brother, uncle and grandfather.

Owen Richards, aged 16, from Wednesbury, was on a family holiday in June when Seifeddine Rezgui opened fire on tourists.

His brother Joel, uncle Adrian Evans and grandfather Patrick Evans were among the 30 Britons killed.

The courageous student said the horrific events had made him appreciate what was important in life.

He said: "When people moan about stuff, you think 'just shut up'. It makes you realise what's important."

Owen remains in contact with other survivors, Naomi Wearing, 18, from Blackburn and Lucy Pettit, 23, from Slough, whom he met in hospital in Tunisia. Owen recently started sixth form at Stuart Bathurst RC High School and College in Wednesbury.

He said: "I was the youngest person involved. Lucy and Naomi were the closest in age group to me. We met in hospital in Tunisia and kept in touch when we got home. We can relate to each other and what we went through in a way that people who weren't there cannot."

His mother Suzanne recalled the moment she received the phone call from her son. She said: "That morning everything had been normal. Then there was that one phone call and everything changed. I put the TV on and realised it was real. I felt so helpless because I was so far away.

"Owen misses his brother. He looked up to him for everything. They had a fantastic relationship," she added.

A new leisure centre in Wednesbury will be named after Joel Richards, Sandwell Council announced this week.

Owen Richards, Adrian Evans, Patrick Evans and Joel Richards at Wembley

From care to university

THE University of Wolverhampton has launched a project to get more children from care backgrounds into higher education.

Aspire2Uni is being spearheaded by the access and outreach department and aims to raise the educational aspirations of looked-after children.

The university will work with the Creating Chances Trust charity, which supports looked-after children, as well as Virtual Schools within the West Midlands. They will organise events and initiatives designed to raise aspirations, break down barriers and help them to progress into higher education. Pupils in Years seven and eight will initially benefit, with a view to supporting them right through to Year 13, university and beyond.

Natalie Latham, outreach co-ordinator for the access and outreach department, said: "This is the start of a seven year supported programme which will hopefully enable them to reach their potential."

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Tommy Steele as Glenn Miller

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- 6 Dec Michael Buble - Leeds & York St Nicholas Fayre
- 6 Dec Elvis - Manchester & Skipton Xmas Markets
- 6 Dec ABBA - Buxton & Chester Xmas Markets
- 13 Dec Freddie Mercury - Manchester & Skipton Xmas Markets
- 13 Dec Elton John - Leeds & York St Nicholas Fayre

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Swim Deep

Saturday, 7pm
Institute, B'ham

Birmingham indie-rockers Swim Deep will be playing a home-town gig on Saturday. They formed back in 2011 and have a new album called Mothers which is out now.
Visit **theinstitutebirmingham.com**

Circa Waves

Friday, 6.30pm
Institute, B'ham

Exciting indie-rock outfit Circa Waves formed in Liverpool in 2013. The band consists of frontman Kieran Shudall, Sam Rourke, Colin Jones and Joe Falconer.
Visit **theinstitutebirmingham.com**

ROCK & POP

Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats
Sun at 7pm, £10
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

The ELO Experience
Sat at 7.30pm, £18.25 - £19.25
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

Ron Sexsmith
Wed at 7pm - 11pm, £22.50
The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

Fightstar
Wed at 7pm, £15
Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

Ryan McGarvey
Mon at 7.30pm, £10 - £12
The Robin, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Arcane Roots
Sat at 12am,
Asylum, Hockley, Birmingham, B19 3LS. Call 0121 233 1109

Les McKeown's Bay City Rollers
Sun at 7.30pm, £19.50 - £21
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Kid Ink
Sun at 7pm, £22.50
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Stars From The Commitments
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Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

The Complete Stone Roses: Stone Roses Tribute
Sat at 7pm, £14.85
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

Fred Zeppelin: Led Zeppelin Tribute
Fri at 8.30pm, £8 - £9
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

Swim Deep
Sat at 7pm, £12
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

Gong
Tue at 7.30pm, £20 - £22.50
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
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Circa Waves
Fri at 6.30pm, £12.50
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
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Nick Harper
Thu at 7.30pm, £10 - £12
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

The Elvis Years
Wed at 7.30pm, £20
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Godsize
Fri at 7.45pm, £3 - £5
The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

Editors
Fri at 6pm, £20
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Cradle Of Filth
Tue at 7pm, £18
Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

ASAP Rocky & Wiz Khalifa
Fri at 7.30pm, £36.70 - £40.20
Genting Arena, Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

Andy Fairweather Low & The Low Riders
Sun at 7.30pm, £20 - £22
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
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The Pretty Things
Fri at 7.30pm,
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Guns N Roses Tribute
Thu at 7.30pm,
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Frank Zappa: The Grandmothers Of Invention
Wed at 8.30pm, £20 - £22.50
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
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Bring It All Back – The Ultimate 90s Show
Fri at 8pm, £15
mac, Birmingham, B12 9QH.
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Panic Room
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Call 0121 643 0428

Open Mic Night
Mon at 8.30pm, Free
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FOLK & ACOUSTIC

The Shires
Sun at 7pm, £13.50
The Institute, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

Urban Folk Quartet
Sat at 8pm, £15.50
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Charlie Landsborough
Fri at 7.30pm - 10pm, £19.50
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE.
Call 01543 578762

The Demon Barbers XL
Thu at 7.30pm - 9.30pm, £16.50
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

The Delray Rockets
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Irish Music Session
Wed at 8pm,
Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB.
Call 01384 374410

JAZZ & BLUES

Grappelli Swing
Mon at 7.30pm, £7.50
The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, B16 8AE.
Call 0121 643 5858

The Robert Cray Band
Fri at 7.30pm, £29.50
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

Steve Ajao Blues Giants
Fri at 5pm,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

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Jocelyn Brown
Wed at 9pm, £20
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Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

Out Of This World
Sun at 7pm - 9pm, £5 - £10
West Bromwich Town Hall, B70 8DX. Call 0121 569 4429

Paul Potts
Fri at 7.30pm, £20 - £34.50
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

CBSO 2015-16 Friday Night Classics: Star Wars
Fri at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £47
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

CBSO 2015-16 - Brahms' German Requiem
Thu at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £45
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

THEATRE

The Irish House Party
Thu at 7.30pm, £19.50
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Rat Pack: Vegas Spectacular
Sat at 7.30pm, £20
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE.
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The Hound Of The Baskervilles
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm, £10 - £15
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Bedlam Foundry Night
Mon at 8pm, £5
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

The Glenn Miller Story
Mon at 7.30pm - 9.45pm, Tue at 7.30pm - 9.45pm, Wed at 2.30pm - 4.45pm, Thu at 7.30pm - 9.45pm, £21.50 - £39.50
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

Ellen Kent Opera & Ballet International: Bizet's Carmen
Sun at 7.30pm - 10.30pm, £17.89 - £90.90
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

Don't Dress For Dinner: Lichfield Players
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm, £10 - £12
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

The Full Monty: Lichfield Operatic Society
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, £15 - £19
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Anita And Me
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm, Sun at 3pm, Tue at 2pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 2pm, 7.30pm,
£7 - £30
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Priscilla Queen Of The Desert
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm,
£15 - £45
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

An Evening Of Burlesque
Sat at 7.30pm, £22.50 - £24.50
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

Hypnosis: Lichfield Players
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm, £10 - £12
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Sweeney Todd: Stafford & District Operatic Society
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, £12.50 - £14.50
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT.
Call 01785 254653

Disney On Ice: Worlds Of Enchantment
Wed at 7pm, Thu at 7pm, £19.74 - £46.62
Barclaycard Arena, B1 2AA.
Call 0121 780 4141

James Cousins Company: Without Stars/There We Have Been
Fri at 8pm, Sat at 8pm, £8 - £12
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

Bhangra Wars
Sat at 5pm, £12.25 - £16.25
Wolverhampton Civic Hall, WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

Annie
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat - Sun at 7.30pm, Sun at 2.30pm, Tue at 7.30pm, Wed - Thu at 7.30pm, Thu at 2pm, 7.30pm,
£20 - £42.50
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB.
Call 0844 338 5000

COMEDY

Malcolm Stent: Brummie Spoken Here!
Sat at 7.45pm, £13.25
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

Chris Ramsey: All Growed Up
Mon at 8pm, £17.50
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT.
Call 01785 254653

Round The Horne
Tue at 7.30pm, £17
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Alan Carr - SOLD OUT
Fri at 8pm, £30
Wolverhampton Civic Hall, WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

OTHER EVENTS

Michael Portillo: Life A Game Of Two Halves
Mon at 7.15pm, £14 - £16
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

Lou Lou's Vintage Fair
Sat at 11am, £2
Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Editors make new start in Highlands

Free of the past, Stafford band Editors have recorded a new album, In Dream, and play Birmingham's O2 Academy

THEY came pretty close to splitting up when former guitarist Chris Urbanowicz left Editors in 2012 citing musical differences.

But now, three years on, Editors can show their true colours as they embark on the next phase of their career. The band, which formed in Stafford in 2002 and was based in Birmingham, have made a clean break with the past on fifth studio album, In Dream.

It was made with Depeche Mode and Nine Inch Nails collaborator, Alan Moulder, and his influence is clear. In Dream is bigger, richer and more electronic than previous works.

The album was produced in an open studio environment at Crear, in the Western Highlands, where they endured hurricane-like weather.

Bassist Russ Leetch said: "Making a record over winter was really great for us, really creative. You are stuck inside anyway. Going up to Scotland and having the elements beating against us was inspiring."

The record will surprise some of the band's fans. It is the 'least-Editors-esque' record in their cannon. "We didn't want to repeat what we'd done before," explained Russ.

Editors have sold out their show tomorrow (Fri) at Birmingham O2 Academy, where support comes from The Twilight Sad.

'You're never too old'

Tommy plays big band idol

MUSIC legend Tommy Steele, who celebrates his 80th birthday next year, returns to Wolverhampton in The Glenn Miller Story next week.

The show, which brings to life the story of the 1940s American big band leader, runs at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from Monday to Saturday as part of an 11-venue UK tour.

The pop and West End star, who was dubbed the UK's answer to Elvis Presley in the 1950s, says: "It all started after I gave a lecture to some secondary school pupils about rock 'n' roll and country music, and this little girl, who was probably about 12, asked me what it was like to sing with Glenn Miller, to which I laughed and said, 'I'm not that old!'

"I told this story to friend Bill Kenwright (leading theatre producer) over dinner one evening and he said 'That's it. The Glenn Miller Story, we can do a stage musical about it'. And when I asked him who will play Glenn Miller, he said 'You are'. Despite my protests that I am a pensioner and English, and Glenn Miller was young and American, Bill insisted and said, 'it calls for a song and dance man – you'. I said, 'Bill, I'm too old to play Glenn Miller.' He replied 'Tommy, you're never too old.'

The showbiz veteran revealed why the role had been irresistible: "Glenn Miller is my idol. When I was a little boy my dad took me to the Albert Hall to see him. All I can remember is this wonderful sound and then came the mystery of his death. It's a great story."

Visit www.grandtheatre.co.uk or call 01902 429212.

Weekend of folk in cathedral city

BIG names from the world of folk music will be heading to Staffordshire this weekend for Lichfield Festival of Folk, which gets under way tomorrow (Fri).

The annual shindig will mainly be held in the city's Guildhall, in Bore Street, and surrounding venues, featuring local musicians as well as those from further afield.

The bill for the three-day festival includes music and storytelling workshops plus performances by The Exmouth Shanty Men, Blackbeard's Tea Party (who have released new album Reprobates), Emily Sanders and Granny's Attic, plus many others. See www.lichfieldarts.org.uk or call 01543 262223.

A homecoming and Robin rock legends

THE Hoosiers are back with a new album, The Secret Service, just a year on from their fourth LP The News From Nowhere, and play The Oobleck, part of the Custard Factory complex in Digbeth, on Saturday.

They will be competing with the big homecoming nearby at The Institute where Swim Deep will be unveiling their new psychedelic groove as heard on their second album Mothers.

Legends play Bilston's Robin 2 with The Pretty Things tomorrow (Fri), Andy Fairweather Low on Sunday, revamped Gong on Tuesday and ex-Frank Zappa associates The Grandmothers of Invention on Wednesday.

Classic comedy in silver screen return

LEGENDARY comedy double act Laurel and Hardy are returning to the big screen, in high definition for the first time.

Four of their classic black and white comedies from the 1930s, presented in double bills, are coming to Showcase and Vue cinemas in the West Midlands as part of a nationwide tour.

Way Out West and Towed In A Hole will be screened at Dudley, Walsall and Birmingham on Tuesday evening with a matinee on October 25. The Music Box and Block-Heads follows at the same cinemas on November 15 (matinee) and 17 (evening).

See www.laurelandhardy roadshow.co.uk website.

Dudley Chronicle Thursday, October 15, 2015

The medieval pavilion tents provide plenty of comfort at Camelot Village

Bicton Countryside Museum traction engine

Inside the luxury Sir Galahad canvas at Crealy Meadows

Crealy Adventure Park Flying Machine

Glamping provides a Came-lot of comfort for the whole family

By Lisa Bailey

CAMPING had never been my thing, but I decided to try glamping during a weekend to Crealy Meadows in Devon.

We were staying in Camelot Village in Sir Galahad – a medieval pavilion tent. This offered far more comfort and luxury than you would expect under canvas. It was spacious with a double bedroom, a twin room and a set of bunk beds.

Heat and cooking was by the wood burning stove and there was light, so it was easy to find your way around. There was a farmhouse style kitchen diner with a Belfast sink and all the utensils you would need.

It was a great adventure and a little bit daunting when on a walk to the toilet block you stumbled upon a full size fibreglass knight with glaring eyes guarding the campsite in the pitch black night. If medieval times don't float your boat, there is also glamping with an African theme.

Not one to go without my creature comforts for long, the toilet and shower block was certainly five star with underfloor heating and touch point showers. It also has family bathrooms and a laundry. The facilities were immaculate.

The weather for the whole weekend was glorious, but it was the end of September and I think seasoned campers would have taken a few extra woollies for the evening.

With a visit to Crealy Meadows, near Exeter, you also get access to Devon's Crealy Great Adventure Park next door through a secret door. A wristband allows you to visit the park as much as you like.

Entertainment for the Meadows is also at the park and live entertainment begins on Friday, October 23, to Monday, November 2. The entertainment includes a mini-disco, race night and cabaret.

There are ghostly goings-on between October 24 and November 1. The park also launches a brand new spooky attraction, Trick or Treat with the Treehouse Trolls, while Scooby-Doo visits on October 30.

There was plenty for all of us in the park with rides, including The Twister, Crealy Grand Prix, Vortex, Tidal Wave and Dino Jeeps.

After all our adventures and fun in the park we visited Exmouth for an hour-long coastal cruise with Stuart Line Cruises, taking us along part of the jurassic coast with beautiful views of the sea and surrounding coastline.

After plenty of sea air, we walked along the promenade and savoured the delights of Exmouth with ice creams in hand. Mine was topped with clotted cream of course. On the Sunday, we visited the truly beautiful Bicton Park Botanical Gardens, about 20 minutes from where we were staying.

We took a 25-minute scenic tour of the park by train and were shown the points of interest on the way, including the park's 41 metre Grecian fir, the tallest of its kind ever recorded.

The Italian garden was stunning with its fountains and we looked around the Palm House – all made of glass – and looked at the cacti in the Arid House.

We also visited the Countryside Museum with its traction engines, wooden wagons and Victorian kitchen. The story of agriculture over the ages was shown to us on a rolling film. For lunch, we ate on the patio of the Garden Centre and as the sun shone we tucked into a delightful homemade meal before going off for more exploring.

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CHOICE

Peter Capaldi (right)

Doctor Who (BBC1, 8.20pm)
The Time Lord and Clara are captured by Vikings and must help protect their village from attack by space warriors from the future known as the Mire. They are heavily outnumbered and outgunned, and their fate seems inevitable, so why does the the Doctor seem so preoccupied with a single Viking girl? First of a two-part story guest starring Maisie Williams, familiar to Game of Thrones fans as Arya Stark in the hugely popular fantasy drama, as well as comedian Rufus Hound, with Peter Capaldi and Jenna Coleman.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **12.00** BBC News; Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **12.50** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** World Amateur Boxing Championships. **2.30** Bargain Hunt. (R) **3.30** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.00** Final Score. **5.20** BBC News. **5.30** Regional Programme. **5.40** Pointless Celebrities.

6.30 Strictly Come Dancing. Following last week's second elimination, the pro-celebrity couples dress up to the nines for another ballroom battle, and are all smiles as they bid to get their names near the top of the leaderboard while secretly hoping their rivals fall flat on their faces during their routines. Whatever the quality, another pair will be leaving tomorrow – and the ultimate decision will be down to judges Len Goodman, Bruno Tonioli, Craig Revel Horwood and Darcey Bussell. Tonight they have their say on the performances and give their scores as usual, while Tess Daly keeps things ticking over and Claudia Winkleman gets the celebrities' reactions as they leave the dance floor.

8.20 Doctor Who. The Time Lord and Clara are captured by Vikings and must help protect their village from attack by space warriors from the future known as the Mire.

9.10 Casualty. Love conquers all for a young couple, while emergency nurse Charlie is on hand to help a father and daughter deal with their grief. Hospital drama, starring Amanda Mealing, William Beck and Lee Mead.

10.00 The National Lottery Live. The all-important winning numbers.

10.10 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Tottenham Hotspur v Liverpool at White Hart Lane and Everton v Manchester United at Goodison Park. The Reds were playing their first match since the dismissal of Brendan Rodgers, while Louis van Gaal's men travelled to Merseyside hoping to avoid a repeat of the 3-0 loss they suffered last season against the Toffees. Plus, action from Chelsea v Aston Villa and Crystal Palace v West Ham United.

12.00 The Apprentice. (R) **1.00** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.05** BBC News.

BBC2

6.20 Film: War and Peace. (1956) **9.40 Film:** The Lavender Hill Mob. (1951) **11.00** Animal SOS. (R) **11.30** Animal SOS. (R) **12.00** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **12.30** The Great British Bake Off – Masterclass. (R) **1.30** Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip. (R) **2.00** Harvest 2015. (R) **3.00** Harvest 2015. (R) **4.00** Harvest 2015. (R) **5.00** Earth's Wildest Waters: The Big Fish. (R)

6.00 Flog It! Experts Charlie Ross and Tracy Martin visit Oxford's Sheldonian Theatre to examine a selection of antiques, including a Chinese snuff bottle and a miniature grandfather clock. Meanwhile, presenter Paul Martin heads for the university's faculty of music to examine the instruments in the Bate Collection. (R)

7.00 Gardeners' World. Actor Griff Rhys Jones offers Joe Swift a private tour of his garden and Carol Klein explores how leaves harness the sun's energy and turn it into food. (R)

7.30 Great Continental Railway Journeys. Armed with his trusty 1913 Bradshaw's Continental Railway Guide, Michael Portillo travels from Sofia to Istanbul along part of the route taken by the Orient Express. (R)

8.30 Dad's Army. Frazer is asked to look after the platoon's Lewis gun, but finds himself in hot water when he misplaces the spring – and fears it is has been left inside a coffin. (R)

9.00 QI XL. Stephen Fry hosts an extended version of the quiz with a difference, with guests Matt Lucas, Lucy Porter and Ross Noble joining Alan Davies.

9.45 Cradle to Grave. Fred starts work as a commissionaire, only to come into conflict with the boss, and Danny is mistaken for David Essex's brother, something he happily exploits to impress the girls. (R)

10.15 Cradle to Grave. Sharon's wedding causes old memories to resurface for Bet and Fred. Last in the series. (R)

10.45 Film: Drive. (2011) A stuntman-turned-getaway driver tries to protect a criminal's family, only to get drawn into a conflict with the Mafia. Crime drama, starring Ryan Gosling and Carey Mulligan.

12.20 Film: La Vie en Rose. (2007) **2.30** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **6.50** Sooty. (R) **7.05** Fish Hooks. **7.25** Adventure Time. **7.45** Marvel Avengers Assemble. **8.15** Horrid Henry. **8.30** Thunderbirds Are Go. **9.00** Jessie. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **10.20** Countrywise. (R) **10.45** ITV News; Weather. **10.55** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.55** Downton Abbey. (R) **1.00** The X Factor. (R) **3.00** Rugby World Cup. Coverage of the opening quarter-final (Kick-off 4.00pm).

6.15 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.25 ITV News; Weather.

6.30 James Bond's Spectre – With Jonathan Ross. Exclusive interviews with the cast and crew of the new 007 blockbuster, including Daniel Craig and the latest Bond villain, Christoph Waltz. Featuring behind-the-scenes filming from locations in Mexico, Rome, Austria and Morocco, Jonathan explores the enduring success of the franchise and its classic cars, futuristic gadgets and Bond girls, and tries fulfil his wish to get behind the wheel of Bond's famous Aston Martin DB10.

7.30 Rugby World Cup. Coverage of the second quarter-final (Kick-off 8.00pm), as the winners of Pool C face the runners-up from Pool D at Millennium Stadium in Cardiff. The winners of this match will progress to the opening semi-final on Saturday of next week, when they will face the team to triumph in this afternoon's quarter-final. Subsequent programmes are subject to change.

10.15 The Jonathan Ross Show. New series. The host welcomes another batch of celebrity guests, starting with Vin Diesel, Jessica Ennis-Hill, Harry Enfield and Paul Whitehouse, while Tom Jones provides the music.

11.20 ITV News; Weather.

11.35 Rugby World Cup Highlights. Mark Durden-Smith presents action from the first and second quarter-finals, which took place at Twickenham and Millennium Stadium respectively.

12.35 Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas. **3.00** Show Me the Telly. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.30** Hever Castle Triathlon. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Frasier. (R) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. **10.55** The Big Bang Theory. **11.25** The Simpsons. (R) **11.55** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage of British Champions Day at Ascot. **4.00** Channel 4 News. **4.15** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.50** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.20** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.50** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.20 Come Dine with Me. Yvonne Finlayson hosts the final night of the cooking competition in Glasgow, offering her guests a combination of "scientifically-infused" food, high-octane entertainment and scintillating chat – plus a healthy dose of revelations – to try to claim the £1,000 prize. (R)

6.45 Film: Beautiful Creatures. (2013) Premiere. A teenager falls in love with a new girl in his school, only to discover she is a witch. As dark secrets from her family's past emerge, they discover that on her 16th birthday, she will be required to choose a side in a conflict between good and evil. Fantasy based on Kami Garcia's novel, starring Alden Ehrenreich, Alice Englert, Jeremy Irons and Emma Thompson.

9.00 It Was Alright in the 1990s. Matt Lucas narrates another look back at TV shows from past decades, with this edition focusing on the time of Cool Britannia and programmes such as The Word, TFI Friday and The Girlie Show. With contributions by Chris Tarrant, Matt Forde, Jenny Eclair, Samira Ahmed and Philippa Perry.

10.00 Gogglebox. Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. Narrated by Caroline Aherne. (R)

11.00 TFI Friday. Chris Evans presents a brand new run of the lively entertainment show, with guests Take That, Steve Coogan, Slaves and Saoirse Ronan. (R)

12.05 Film: Scary Movie 2. (2001) **1.40** Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R) **2.35** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.45** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.40** Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R) **5.45** Hugh's 3 Good Things: Best Bites. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.35** Access. **10.45** Cowboy Builders. (R) **11.45** Cowboy Builders. (R) **12.45** Cowboy Builders. (R) **1.45 Film:** Columbo Likes the Nightlife. (2003) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk. **3.30 Film:** Columbo: A Bird in the Hand. (1992) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk and Tyne Daly. **5.20** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R)

6.15 Funniest Fails, Falls & Flops. Comedy clip show featuring pranks gone wrong, unwise acts and failed attempts of misplaced ambition, including a motorcycle crashing into a church and a bungled shop robbery.

6.35 Funniest Fails, Falls & Flops. Comedy clip show featuring pranks gone wrong, including gravity taking its toll on a succession of the unwary and a ferry crashing into a jetty.

7.00 Now That's Funny! A collection of internet-sourced videos with a family friendly hook, featuring some dating do's and don'ts and a selection of kitchen nightmares.

8.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Two agents get caught up in a dispute between a landlord and a tenant who refuses to move out, while on the south coast, debt collection from a Turkish restaurant gets complicated. (R)

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present highlights of the weekend's top matches from the Championship, League One and League Two, including Birmingham City v Queens Park Rangers, Leeds United v Brighton & Hove Albion, Coventry City v Blackpool and Leyton Orient v Oxford United. Plus, a round-up of the main talking points, and interviews with a selection of players and managers.

10.30 20 Moments That Rocked the 00s. Lauren Laverne presents a countdown of some of the most memorable moments from the decade, featuring a look at world-changing news stories and entertainment headlines.

11.55 The Best of Bad TV. The series charting TV gaffes continues with a look at 2000s. (R)

1.10 The Gadget Show. (R) **2.00** SuperCasino. **4.00** Witch Hunt: A Century of Murder. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Top Gear **8.00** Don't Tell the Bride **9.00** Russell Howard's Good News **10.00 Film:** Scream (1996) **11.45** Family Guy **2.00** Together **2.30** Asian Provocateur **3.00** Russell Howard's Good News **4.00** Close

BBC Four
7.00 The Magic of Mushrooms **8.00** Lost Kingdoms of Central America **9.00** Arne Dahl: A Midsummer Night's Dream Part 1 **9.55** Arne Dahl: A Midsummer Night's Dream Part 2 **10.55** The Joy of the Single **11.55** Music for Misfits: The Story of Indie **12.55** Britpop at the BBC **1.55** Guitar Heroes at the BBC **2.55** Lost Kingdoms of Central America **3.55** Close

ITV2
12.15 Tricked **1.15** You've Been Framed! **2.20 Film:** What a Girl Wants (2003) **4.30 Film:** Hotel Transylvania (2012) **6.15 Film:** Hulk (2003) **9.00 Film:** Bridget Jones's Diary (2001) **11.00** Celebrity Juice **11.50** The Almost Impossible Gameshow **12.50** Release the Hounds **1.40** Tricked **2.30** Kylie Minogue: The Hot Desk **2.40** Teleshopping **5.40** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3
12.45 Inspector Morse **3.00** Midsomer Murders **5.00** Lewis **7.00** Doc Martin **8.00** Midsomer Murders **10.00** Lewis **12.00** Hidden Treasure **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4
11.15 The Professionals **1.25** Silverstone Classic 2015 **2.30** British Touring Car Championship Highlights **4.00 Film:** The Sting (1973) **6.40** Storage Wars **7.10 Film:** Police Academy 5: Assignment Miami Beach (1988) **9.00 Film:** Escape from New York (1981) **11.05 Film:** Fearless (2006) **1.05** Hell on Wheels **2.00** Minder **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4
2.20 Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **2.30** The Big Bang Theory **4.30 Film:** The Golden Compass (2007) **6.45** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **7.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.30** The Big Bang Theory: Top 5 Leonard **10.00** The Inbetweeners **11.05** The IT Crowd **12.10** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **12.40** How I Met Your Mother **1.40** The Inbetweeners **2.40** The IT Crowd **3.30** Rules of Engagement **3.55** Suburgatory

Film4
11.00 The Virgin Queen (1955) **1.00** 17 Again (2009) **3.05** The Family Stone (2005) **5.10** Home Alone (1990) **7.15** Zoolander (2001) **9.00** Contraband (2012) **11.10** Mama (2013) **1.10** The Principles of Lust (2003) **3.35** Close

ADVERTISEMENT

Dental implants bring an end to hidden misery of failing teeth

My secret smile...

Amy – not her real name – has secretly suffered with her teeth for 24 years, bravely smiling through her discomfort. Now free from oral problems, her smile holds another secret . . . thanks to one of dentistry's most creative procedure.

Amy doesn't need to say anything about her dental implants – her smile tells it's own obvious story.

Upbeat and bubbly, the Black Country care professional, who lives and breathes her work with the learning disabled, dispenses liberal amounts of infectious laughter and disarming smiles.

Youthfully middle-aged, she is confident, presents well and is clearly very proud of the achievements of her clients.

A live-in support worker, her sunny outlook and cheery disposition have regularly been challenged over the years.

Surprisingly, it's not been the relentless pressure of her work, the major rebuild of her home, or the juggling of domestic duties with the demands of being a working mum.

Amy's own life-changer, she admits, have been her teeth. "It's been my secret for years and years, but on-one would have ever known."

Problems began to emerge 24 years ago after the birth of her daughter. "I had one abscess after another.

"The problem just kept on recurring and the gaps between my teeth began to increase after extractions to try to ease the problem." She adds: "I simply could not let any of this get in the way of my work. I have the best job in the world – certainly the most rewarding – and my current one-to-one client is an extension of my life."

A dental crisis with broken teeth brought the catalogue of hidden problems to a head and Amy booked an emergency appointment with Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS(Eng) GDC108353, who heads the clinics at the North Street Dental and Implant practice in Dudley.

"I was totally reassured by Steven, felt comfortable and at ease as he explained to me the options and that implants could be the best solution," Amy recalls.

Issues regarding teeth and pregnancy are well documented and in some women it can trigger oral problems.

Says Steven: "During pregnancy, increased hormones can affect your body's response to plaque – the layer of germs on your teeth – but I need to assure people that getting pregnant does not automatically damage teeth. The demands of pregnancy, however, can in some instances create havoc, as it appears to have done with this patient.

"Her problem has been resolved by using dental implants, one of the most creative options modern dentistry affords and the nearest possible substitute for natural teeth. Outcomes are generally very predictable."

The implant work has reshaped Amy's smile and face, something her daughter noticed immediately and is clearly evident from pictures displayed in her home.

For anxious patients, North Street Dental and Implant Clinic can offer intravenous sedation for those undergoing surgery.

"I know it appears strange, but up until having the implants, my teeth have affected the way I lived, my food choices – no toffee or peanuts – and my self-confidence. I used to speak with my hand in front of my mouth where gaps had opened up between teeth at the side.

"If you look at the pictures of me with my husband my smile is nowhere near as wide as it is today. My daughter says I now smile all of the time," she says.

"I never have to worry anymore about the problems I've endured and getting the implants was really not that bad. I was back at work the next morning and no-one knew. It was certainly money well spent."

The implants were placed by Dr Owain Rees BDS, DGDP (UK) DIP IMP DENT (UCL), the clinic's implantologist.

With more than 25 years' experience as a dental implant surgeon, he initially worked as a house officer in oral surgery at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital. His surgical mentor was the late Dennis Wedgewood MBBS BDS FDSRCS, consultant Oral and Maxillofacial surgeon.

"Very early on in my career I was exposed to implant work and placed my first implant in the late '80s. Since then I've had a special interest in this field of dentistry," says Owain.

In furthering his surgical skills, Owain undertook postgraduate implantology training with the Eastman Dental Institute. A further implant qualification followed in advanced implantology for experienced practitioners.

"It's a privilege to be part of this clinical success story," he adds.

"The name of the patient has been changed to preserve confidentiality . . . and her longstanding secret.

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CHOICE

Michael Fox

Downton Abbey (ITV, 9pm)
Neville Chamberlain visits Downton for dinner, and is drawn into Violet's plan to save the hospital, with distressing consequences for everyone. Andy finds an unexpected confidante while helping Mr Mason move into Yew Tree Farm, Mary is uncertain if she has met her match, Edith meets Bertie Pelham in London, and Spratt comes to Denker's aid. Mrs Hughes struggles to keep Carson happy, while Mary thinks secrets are being kept from her. Rupert Frazer, Maggie Smith, Hugh Bonneville, Laura Carmichael, Jim Carter, Raquel Cassidy and Brendan Coyle star.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **2.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.00** Eat Well for Less? (R) **4.00** Points of View. **4.15** Songs of Praise. **4.50** DIY SOS: Homes for Veterans. (R) **5.50** BBC News.

6.10 Regional Programme.

6.15 Countryfile Autumn Special. The latest rural developments, including reports on issues affecting country communities and insights into the life of the modern farmer. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

7.15 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman introduce the results of last night's public vote, as two couples face a dance-off to remain in the competition. Plus, music from Will Young.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce presents from Plymouth's Royal William Yard. Items brought in to be valued include a ceremonial wooden spoon presented to the student who got the worst exam results in the history of Cambridge University, one of the last flasks of naval rum to be produced, a book of designs by a famous landscape gardener, a ceremonial hammer and chisel and some dolls' house furniture. One visitor discovers the brooch she bought in a charity shop is much older than she thought.

9.00 From Darkness. Claire flees to the safety of the Western Isles after a direct threat to her life, and is convinced she is being watched. Norrie feels her presence endangers their daughter, and insists she return to Manchester to finish things once and for all. John also comes under pressure to crack the case before his misconduct review, and the two come up with a reckless plan that could cost them both dearly if they fail.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman presents action from the day's sole Premier League match.

11.15 The Apprentice.

12.15 Weather for the Week Ahead.
12.20 BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **6.45** The Big Allotment Challenge. (R) **7.45** Countryfile. (R) **8.45** Gardeners' World. (R) **9.15** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.45** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.15** The Great British Bake Off – Masterclass. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip. (R) **1.30** John Huston: Talking Pictures. **2.10 Film:** The Man Who Would Be King. (1975) **4.15** The Railway: Keeping Britain on Track. (R) **5.15** Flog It! (R)

6.00 Don't Panic – The Truth About Population. Statistician Hans Rosling uses state-of-the-art 3D graphics to reveal that the problems of rapid population growth and extreme poverty are beginning to be conquered. (R)

7.00 Trawlermen Special: The Prawn Wars. Dougie Vipond follows the creelers, trawlers and scallop dredgers who have to battle to make a living on Scotland's West Coast.

8.00 Earth's Wildest Waters: The Big Fish. Ben Fogle takes the seven remaining contestants to Cuba, where they must fish in the Bay of Pigs using local tyre tube boats and go in search of giant tarpon on the Atlantic coast.

9.00 Britain's Ultimate Pilots: Inside the RAF. The flyers attend the UK's largest air show, where the Red Arrows have to struggle to cope with the weather and a group of pilots reenact a Second World War 18-plane launch.

10.00 Family Guy. Peter makes a group of female friends.

10.20 Family Guy. Peter and Lois send Chris to space camp to boost his self-esteem, but when his stint ends and the Griffins arrive to pick him up, they are accidentally launched into space.

10.45 Family Guy.

11.05 Top Coppers. A string of disappearances are connected to a medical research lab, but when Mahogany investigates, he is injected with a lethal serum that leaves him with 24 hours to live.

11.35 Film: 8 Minutes Idle. (2012) Premiere. A lazy call centre employee is forced to secretly live in the office when his parents throw him out of the family home. Comedy, starring Tom Hughes.

12.55 Film: Corridors of Blood. (1958)
2.20 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **3.20** Holby City. (R) **4.20** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **6.50** Sooty. (R) **7.05** Fish Hooks. **7.25** Matt Hatter Chronicles. **7.45** Marvel Avengers Assemble. **8.15** Horrid Henry. **8.30** Thunderbirds Are Go. **9.00** Horrible Science. **9.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **11.20** ITV News; Weather. **11.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.25** Rugby World Cup. **3.15** Rugby World Cup.

6.15 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.20 ITV News; Weather.

6.30 You've Been Framed! Featuring a bride dealing with language difficulties, a woman getting run over by a fire engine, a dog that shoots a video with a smartphone, and a surprise inside an egg. (R)

7.00 The X Factor. Caroline Flack and Olly Murs present the final stage of the six chair challenge, featuring contestants from the Overs category. Judges Simon Cowell, Rita Ora, Nick Grimshaw and Cheryl Fernandez-Versini must each select six performers to go through to the live shows – but have the freedom to change their mind at any point, so even those who win a place are not safe until the very end.

9.00 Downton Abbey. Neville Chamberlain visits Downton for dinner, and is drawn into Violet's plan to save the hospital, with distressing consequences for everyone. Andy finds an unexpected confidante while helping Mr Mason move into Yew Tree Farm, Mary is uncertain if she has met her match, Edith meets Bertie Pelham in London, and Spratt comes to Denker's aid. Mrs Hughes struggles to keep Carson happy, while Mary thinks secrets are being kept from her.

10.00 ITV News; Weather.

10.15 Rugby World Cup Highlights. Mark Durden-Smith presents action from the third and fourth quarter-finals, which took place at Millennium Stadium and Twickenham respectively.

11.15 Premiership Rugby Union.

12.15 Perspectives: Rick Wakeman on Vivaldi's Four Seasons. (R) **1.20** Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.20 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.45** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.10** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.55** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.25 Film:** Spy Kids 4: All the Time in the World. (2011) Family adventure, starring Jessica Alba. **3.05 Film:** A Knight's Tale. (2001) Medieval comedy adventure, starring Heath Ledger. **5.40** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun.

6.40 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Homes by the Sea. Architectural designer Charlie Luxton leaves behind mainland Britain and heads to the Channel Islands, as his quest to visit impressive seaside homes continues. On Guernsey's Jerbourg peninsula, he takes in a remodelled clifftop villa, and an old windmill that once served as the home of French writer Victor Hugo during his time of exile on the island. Later, on Jersey, he examines a converted railway station at Corbiere, and a medieval church on St Brelade's Bay.

8.00 China: Treasures of the Jade Empire. A look at the relics found in the tombs of China's Han Dynasty. The era is generally considered the golden age of ancient China, rivaling the Roman empire for international power, and has been a defining influence on the country's cultural identity ever since. The programme examines how the emperors arranged to have their dead bodies mummified in the search for immortality and looks at a newly discovered version of the famous terracotta army.

9.00 Homeland. Carrie and During visit a refugee camp, while Saul and Allison are at odds with each other. Thriller following a team of CIA agents battling terrorists, starring Claire Danes.

10.00 Experimental. Tim builds a vacuum-powered climbing kit and challenges Buddy to scale a theatre. The duo also examine G-Forces by attaching a moped to a children's roundabout. Last in the series.

11.05 Film: Haywire. (2011) Action thriller, with Gina Carano.

12.45 Film: Metro Manila. (2013) **2.45** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.35** Food Unwrapped. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.35** Pip Ahoy! (R) **6.45** Tickety Toc. (R) **6.55** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.10** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.30** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.50** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **8.20** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.35** Football League Tonight. (R) **10.00** The Great Birmingham Run. Coverage of the half-marathon. **12.05 Film:** Mannequin. (1987) Fantasy comedy, starring Andrew McCarthy. **1.50 Film:** Did You Hear about the Morgans? (2009) Romantic comedy, starring Hugh Grant and Sarah Jessica Parker. **3.55 Film:** Seabiscuit. (2003) Fact-based horse racing drama, with Tobey Maguire.

6.35 5 News Weekend.

6.40 Film: The Fifth Element. (1997) In the 23rd century, the world faces destruction from a seemingly unstoppable force of pure evil. Meanwhile, a New York cab driver encounters a mysterious woman destined to save the Earth from its fate, and has to protect her from a scheming arms dealer and a horde of alien mercenaries. Luc Besson's sci-fi adventure, starring Bruce Willis, Milla Jovovich and Gary Oldman. Edited for language, nudity and sexual content.

9.00 Film: Centurion. (2010) Premiere. A Roman legion is sent on a mission to crush a Pictish uprising, only to be nearly wiped out in a savage ambush. A centurion who survives the massacre takes charge of the survivors and leads them on a daring mission to rescue their captured general and make it back to their own territory alive. Neil Marshall's action thriller, with Michael Fassbender, Dominic West and Olga Kurylenko.

11.00 Film: Conan the Barbarian. (2011) A warrior seeks revenge on the warlord who killed his father, and tries to stop him magically making himself all-powerful. Fantasy adventure, with Jason Momoa and Stephen Lang.

12.55 SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10** Britain's Flashiest Families. A woman who spends tens of thousands of pounds on watches for her children. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Top Gear **8.00** Don't Tell the Bride **9.00** Russell Howard's Good News **10.00 Film:** I Know What You Did Last Summer (1997) **11.35** Family Guy **1.00** Asian Provocateur **1.30** Together **2.00** Football Fight Club **3.00** Russell Howard's Good News **4.00** Close

BBC Four
7.00 The Bridges That Built London with Dan Cruickshank **8.00** The Many Faces of Les Dawson **9.00** Rich Hall's Inventing the Indians **10.30 Film:** The Hunters **12.20** Ultimate Swarms **1.20** Ford's Dagenham Dream **2.20** Immortal? A Horizon Guide to Ageing **3.20** Close

ITV2
11.15 The Almost Impossible Gameshow **12.20** Catchphrase **1.05 Film:** What a Girl Wants (2003) **3.15** You've Been Framed!: Animals **4.15 Film:** Happy Feet (2006) **6.25 Film:** Lost in Space (1998) **9.00** The Xtra Factor **10.00 Film:** White Chicks (2004) **12.20** Viral Tap **1.05** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **1.55** Animal Practice **2.15** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3
12.20 Inspector Morse **2.40** Lewis **4.40** Midsomer Murders **6.50** Foyle's War **9.00** Sunday Night at the Palladium **10.00** Birds of a Feather **10.30** City Lights **11.35** Lewis **1.30** Agatha Christie's Marple **3.05** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.40** Emmerdale

ITV4
1.40 Film: The Sting (1973) **4.20 Film:** Police Academy 5: Assignment Miami Beach (1988) **6.10 Film:** Superman IV: The Quest for Peace (1987) **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00 Film:** High Plains Drifter (1973) **11.15 Film:** The Wild Bunch (1969) **2.10** Hell on Wheels **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4
12.30 Film: A Turtle's Tale: Sammy's Adventures (2010) **2.15** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **2.30** Come Dine with Me: Made in Chelsea Special **3.30** Made in Chelsea Does Come Dine with Me **4.35** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** The Mechanic (2011) **10.50** Gogglebox **12.30** Chewing Gum **1.00** How to Get Fit **1.35** 2 Broke Girls **2.55** Rules of Engagement **3.15** Baby Daddy **3.35** Hollyoaks

Film4
11.00 Went the Day Well? (1942) **1.00** Fred Claus (2007) **3.15** The War of the Worlds (1953) **4.55** Fletch (1985) **6.55** Mirror Mirror (2012) **9.00** Paul (2011) **11.05** Role Models (2008) **1.10** Nowhere Boy (2009) **3.15** Close

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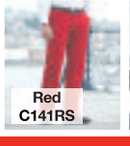

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Being Bhaijaan, Channel 4, 1am
Shabani Hassanwalia and Samreen Farooqui's documentary exploring the influence of Bollywood superstar Salman Khan on masculinity in India, told through the story of Shan Ghosh and Balram Gehani's obsession with the actor. To these devotees, Khan's physicality, the words he utters on screen, his charity work and the fact that he has yet to marry all verge on the sacred, but in real life the actor faces a five-year prison sentence for a hit-and-run case dating from 2002 and is currently out on bail. In Hindi and Urdu. (2014)

WEDNESDAY
Fatal Trust, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A widow returns to the small town where she grew up to recover from her grief at the loss of her husband, and gets a job as a secretary to the local doctor. She becomes suspicious about the surprising number of patients who die after treatment, and becomes convinced the seemingly kind medic is poisoning them. Crime drama, starring Amy Jo Johnson and David Haydn-Jones. (2006)

Skyfall, Friday, ITV, 9pm

THURSDAY
Total Recall, Channel 5, 10pm
A man living in a bleak future years after a nuclear war has fake memories of being a secret agent implanted into his brain. However, the procedure uncovers the fact that he really is a spy with his memory erased, and he is forced to become a fugitive from the totalitarian government. Sci-fi thriller remake, with Colin Farrell, Kate Beckinsale and Jessica Biel. (2012)

FRIDAY
Skyfall, ITV, 9pm
James Bond pursues a mysterious criminal mastermind who has orchestrated a terrorist attack on MI6 headquarters and exposed the identities of undercover agents around the world. The trail leads to a rogue former operative who has a personal vendetta against the intelligence organisation's leader. Action thriller, starring Daniel Craig, Javier Bardem, Judi Dench and Ralph Fiennes. (2012)

A life changing event awaits the citizens

Even the mighty Coen brothers couldn't have foreseen the success of Fargo when it was released back in 1996.

It was a huge hit, won brothers Joel and Ethan an Oscar for Best Original Screenplay, and Joel's wife Frances McDormand picked up a statuette for her performance as pregnant Minnesota police chief Marge Gunderson, who is on the trail of two killers.

Eighteen years later, writer Noah Hawley used the film as inspiration for a 10-part quirky crime drama which starred Billy Bob Thornton, Colin Hanks and Martin Freeman, although it was Allison Tolman who stole the show as Molly Solverson who, like Marge, is a state trooper.

The character pops up as a four-year-old child in the new series, which acts as a kind of prequel to its predecessor. At the centre of the story is Molly's dad Lou, who was originally played by Keith Carradine; here, Patrick Wilson assumes the role.

The story is set in 1979 and Lou is a Vietnam veteran now working as a state police officer who, along with his father-in-law, Sheriff Hank Larsson, is investigating the links between a crime gang and a major Mob syndicate.

Wilson is joined on screen by Kirsten Dunst and Nick Offerman, while Bruce Campbell makes an unmissable appearance as US presidential candidate Ronald Reagan.

But perhaps the biggest draw is Ted Danson, who plays Hank, and wasn't sure about taking the role.

"To be honest, I hadn't watched the first season," he says, somewhat sheepishly. "My kids all kept saying 'No, no, no, no, no, you've gotta watch this!' And I continued to resist, for some reason.

"But then, towards the last month of doing CSI last year, there was an offer, so I immediately devoured the whole thing in about two days. Halfway into the first episode I was just totally hooked by the characters, the writing, the acting.

"The whole mood of it was so fascinating to me, and it definitely captured the spirit of the Coens, and then just took off on its own track. Then I had a phone call with Noah. The part wasn't that large when I read it, and I kept saying 'Gee, is there enough for me to sink my teeth into?' but he remained very mysterious…"

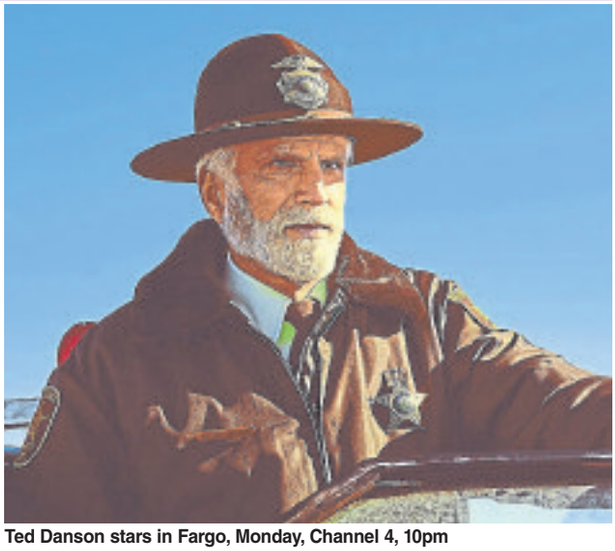
Danson sports an impressive beard throughout, and it was all his own – although he and his wife, Mary Steenburgen, weren't so thrilled by it.

"We both went, 'looks good, feels like crap!'" he laughs. "I couldn't wait to get rid of it. I liked how it looked, but it was like trying to kiss through a burlap sack."

So, instead of focusing on facial hair, Danson would prefer people tuned in to see what promises to be one of 2015's best shows.

"It has that same Fargo tone, but it's also completely different," he explains. "It has the same thing – 'How can I be smiling and grimacing at the same time through all the violence?'

"You still get to know the characters so well because of the leisurely pace. But you really get stuck into a different world – you really do time-travel back to the late 70s. And it does really have a unique voice."


Ted Danson stars in Fargo, Monday, Channel 4, 10pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
SAS: Who Dares Wins
Channel 4, 9pm
New series. Selection for the SAS is one of the world's toughest job interviews and physical fitness is one basic requirement, but what's really being tested is psychological resilience and character as candidates undergo sleep deprivation, interrogation and a series of increasingly complex mind games. In this programme, ex-special forces soldiers recreate the selection process for 30 civilian men, with the first episode seeing the recruits arrive at an isolated barracks in Wales and are introduced to directing staff Foxy, Ollie and Colin, under the watchful eye of chief instructor Ant.

TUESDAY
Building Cars Live
BBC2, 7.30pm
Contrary to what some people may think or say – the British car manufacturing industry is in pretty good shape. Every 20 seconds, a brand new vehicle rolls off the production line somewhere in Britain. This new two-part documentary takes viewers into the fascinating world of the car manufacturing industry, with presenters James May, Kate Humble and Ant Anstead broadcasting live from one of Britain's biggest and busiest car factories. The trio will go behind the scenes to reveal the science, engineering and people that keep us on the road, with access all areas to BMW's MINI plant in Oxford, the oldest car manufacturing site in Europe, with production dating back over 100 years, where a car is built every 67 seconds, which is less time than it takes to boil a kettle.

WEDNESDAY
DIY SOS: Homes for Veterans
BBC1, 8pm
Nick Knowles and the team continue with their most ambitious project to date, with the assistance of the local community and two royal helpers, Prince William and Prince Harry. The second edition sees them create a home for a veteran, who is a triple amputee after an IED blew up in Afghanistan. They are also aiming to renovate the fronts of the houses on the street and put in new utilities, as well as creating a lasting legacy in the form of a support centre, which will help other veterans find homes and jobs.

Building Cars Live, Tuesday, BBC2, 7.30pm

THURSDAY
My Son the Jihadi
Channel 4, 9pm
In 2009, 19-year-old Thomas Evans from Buckinghamshire converted to Islam, adopting the name of Abdul Hakim. Two years later, he left his family home in Buckinghamshire to travel to Somalia where he became the only known white British man to join Al Shabaab, an Al Qaeda affiliate jihadi group behind multiple atrocities, including the 2013 Westgate shopping attack in Kenya. This documentary was filmed over a nine-month period and charts the struggle his mother Sally and younger brother Micheal face as they try to reconcile the Thomas they knew – a loving, mild-mannered teenager – with Abdul, the jihadi-preaching fundamentalist he has become. While Micheal, who had previously been close to his sibling, often refuses to speak to him when he calls, Sally refuses to give up on her son.

FRIDAY
The CIA Kennedy Killing: Conspiracy
Channel 5, 8pm
There have been countless documentaries about the conspiracy theories surrounding the assassination of John F Kennedy, but this programme focuses on death of his brother, Robert, who shot in 1968. His killer, Sirhan Sirhan has spent the best part of 50 years in prison for the murder, but this programme looks at the claims that he himself was the victim of a Manchurian Candidate-style brainwashing. The programme also examines the conspiracy theories concerning other high-profile deaths, including that of TV presenter Jill Dando in 1999, and the suicide of British weapons inspector Dr David Kelly. There's also a look at claims that the CIA made more than 600 attempts to assassinate former Cuban president Fide Castro, plotting to use everything from an exploding cigar to a bacteria-impregnated wetsuit.

The Graham Norton Show
BBC1, 10.35pm
A James Bond special, with guests Daniel Craig and Naomie Harris, who star as 007 and Miss Moneypenny in the latest release Spectre. Plus, in a live world exclusive, singer Sam Smith performs the theme to the movie.

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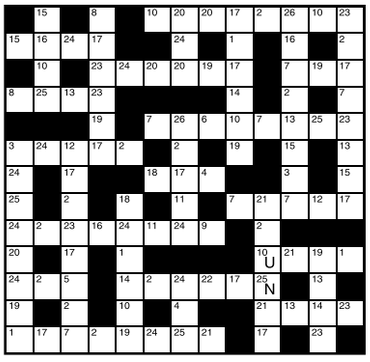
Dudley Chronicle Thursday, October 15, 2015

BRAIN GYM No.347

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



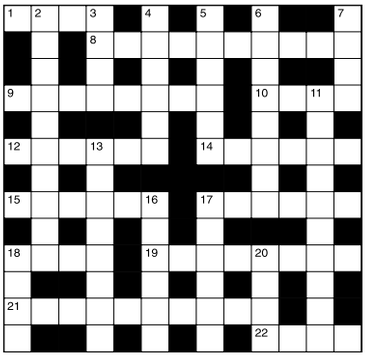
1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10 U	23
11	24
12	25 N
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
C	T	V	B	P	Z	Y	E	D	G	L	X	R
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
U	Q	M	F	I	H	N	A	J	W	K	S	O

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Mail could have originated in Peru (4)
8. Sign of a poet completely lacking inspiration? (5,5)
9. E.g. a thief to catch a thief? (4,4)
10. Help to place a wager (4)
12. Said my alarm went off (6)
14. Recaps outrageous escapade (6)
15. Lots go under it (6)
17. On receiving flower, doctor becomes crabbed (6)
18. Incline to be thin (4)
19. Rave about big town in truth (8)
21. Case against the prisoner? (10)
22. Coil with a blow? (4)

Down

2. Suggest I'd go in to frighten (10)
3. Skilful sailor takes on the French (4)
4. It provides a star-studded cast for the viewer (6)
5. Presumably they help one to look slippy (6)
6. Does he mend broken marriages? (8)
7. Give a victory roll on the drums? (4)
11. Elucidation of former place (10)
13. Impetus for more than a short time (8)
16. Let the cat out of the bag about meat (6)
17. Spoil drink at the rim (6)
18. Does he travel up by train? Don't believe him! (4)
20. Manners, so to speak (4)

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Platform (4)
8. Victorious (10)
9. Finished (8)
10. Sleigh (4)
12. Ready (6)
14. Show (6)
15. Still (6)
17. Threefold (6)
18. Sour (4)
19. Attend (8)
21. Abusive (10)
22. Frank (4)

Down

2. Dictatorial (10)
3. Cease (4)
4. Noiseless (6)
5. Hinder (6)
6. Punish (8)
7. Boss (4)
11. Great merit (10)
13. Bullfighters (8)
16. Perpetrate (6)
17. Ligament (6)
18. Too (4)
20. Mediocre (2-2)

Sudoku

	4	6		9		7		
	9		8				2	6
		8			1		4	
			5			4		
4		2		8	9	5		
	5	3			6			1
	7		4			9		
	8				3		7	
9		1		6			8	

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

3	2	1	6	4	9	7	8	5
4	5	7	8	3	2	1	6	9
8	9	6	7	1	5	2	3	4
5	8	4	9	7	1	3	2	6
6	3	9	5	2	8	4	7	1
7	1	2	4	6	3	9	5	8
1	6	8	2	9	7	5	4	3
9	7	5	3	8	4	6	1	2
2	4	3	1	5	6	8	9	7

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Raise; 8 Outlook; 9 Athlete; 10 Corps; 12 Economical; 15 Second hand; 18 Shops; 19 Ducking; 21 Concern; 22 Point. Down: 1 Broadcasts; 2 Tight; 3 Hebe; 4 Modern; 5 Stockman; 6 Correct; 11 Sole rights; 13 Canister; 14 Account; 16 Hiding; 17 Mimic; 20 Cope. QUICK - Across: 7 Force; 8 Adipose; 9 Example; 10 Limit; 12 Dissidence; 15 Astrologer; 18 Extra; 19 Fitness; 21 Protein; 22 Place. Down: 1 Effeminate; 2 Great; 3 Help; 4 Wagers; 5 Dislodge; 6 Comment; 11 Trespasser; 13 Isolated; 14 Station; 16 Offend; 17 Regal; 20 Type.

Thinking space

Quiz

1. In the Bible, who owned the vineyard adjoining King Ahab's palace?
2. What sort of bird is a yaffle?
3. Who were the handmaidens of Odin who served at the Valhalla banquets?
4. In which city is Yeshiva University?
5. In which country was the first British atomic missile exploded in 1953?
6. On which instrument was the 'Harry Lime Theme' played?
7. What art gallery is situated at Millbank, London?
8. Where is 'The Street Which is Called Straight'?
9. What does the cooking term nivernaise mean?
10. What, in American slang, is a 'Holy Joe'?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 1986; 2 Sir Robert Menzies; 3 Jim Callaghan; 4 Aaron Copland; 5 Pluto; 6 Aurora; 7 Greenland and Iceland; 8 Dromedary; 9 Futurism; 10 Henry James.

Niner: ALDERSHOT

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

598874 gives a game,
62552 gives a second game,
1383453 gives a third game.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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A £600 million plan to regenerate the Snow Hill and Colmore areas of Birmingham city centre aims to replicate the success of London's Canary Wharf.

The Snow Hill masterplan is a scheme to transform the business district and bring in further investment from global businesses — creating up to 10,000 jobs.

It will also generate more than two million sq ft of office space and estimates suggest it will boost the economy by more than £600 million a year.

Public consultation into the masterplan was carried out in February and March this year, with the response being 'fantastic'.

The plan itself has been altered where necessary to take into account any significant changes.

Birmingham City Council's cabinet have been asked to formally adopt the plan, which was launched by the authority and Colmore Business District.

Councillor Tahir Ali, cabinet member for development, transport and economy, said: "This bold and exciting masterplan is about setting out our shared vision for the future development of this key city centre district, maximising its potential and making the most of the opportunities available to help boost economic growth. The response to the public consultation has been fantastic."

Meanwhile, work has begun on a £5 million project to build more than 40 new homes in southern Birmingham.

The development in Kings Norton will offer a mixture of 21 one-bedroom apartments, 23 two and three bedroom homes.

The site, on the corner of Longfellow Road and Popes Lane, is owned by Viridian and Westleigh will carry out all building works.

Funding for the development has been provided by Viridian with support also coming from the Homes and Communities Agency.

Chris Miller, a director at Viridian Housing, said: "We plan to build more homes in the region over the next few years and believe that the quality we will achieve at Longfellow Road will provide our residents with safe, secure and energy efficient homes they can enjoy."

Work is expected to be completed by April next year.

Unique detached period property has character

A UNIQUE detached period property of considerable character, Phoenix House, in Cleobury Road, Bewdley, comes with a detached double garage with workshop and log store.

It is for sale through Allan Morris at £339,950 with no chain.

Phoenix House forms part of a particularly attractive 18th Century property which has been extensively renovated by the present ownerst to form two homes. It has a gated gravel driveway.

The property has a front porch, reception hall, a lounge with ceiling beams and a brick fireplace housing a log burning stove, dining room and kitchen with an electric double oven plus five ring gas hob and extractor hood and underfloor heating. There are two principal double bedrooms (master en-suite), a bathroom, shower room, two loft rooms, gas central heating and gardens. For further information call the agent on 01299 400555 or visit www.allan-morris.co.uk

Spacious detached has four bedrooms

THIS spacious detached four-bedroomed home in Wren Street, Woodsetton, is for sale through Wakeman Estates at £230,000 with no chain.

With gas central heating and double glazing, it has an entrance porch, entrance hall, a lounge with a fireplace housing an electric fire, archway to a dining room with French doors to rear garden. The kitchen has a built-in electric oven and ceramic hob, microwave, fridge, washing machine. There is a lobby, WC and boiler room. Upstairs bedroom one has built-in mirrored wardrobe, three further bedrooms, a bathroom with a shower over the bath, separate WC. There is a garage and rear garden.

Call the agent on 01902 885894 or visit www.wakeman-online.com

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Traditional detached home with a lot of character

HAVING delightful panoramic views, this traditional detached residence in Wolverhampton Road, Sedgley, also comes with an extensive rear garden and a garden room.

It is for sale through Skitts at £275,000.

This three-bedroom — plus attic room — home has been improved and extended to provide excellent living accommodation.

With gas central heating and double glazing, it has attractive coloured glass windows and doors, three reception rooms plus a garden room, a fitted kitchen, laundrette, WC, three double bedrooms, a bathroom, attic room, off-road parking for numerous vehicles, two garages, garden room and a garden store.

For further information contact Skitts on 01902 686868 or visit www.skitts.net

Accommodation is over three floors

A LARGE and beautifully presented four-bedroomed period home with accommodation over four floors, 25 Heath Street, Stourbridge, is finished to an impeccable standard. It is for sale through The Lee Shaw Partnership at £299,950.

It has a walled and gated front garden, reception hall with oak flooring that continues to both reception rooms, dining room/sitting room, lounge with French doors and a multi-fuel stove.

There is a cellar, a dining kitchen integrated appliances and a defined glass roof and French doors, three first floor bedrooms, a bathroom, second floor master bedroom and an attractive long rear garden.

For further information contact The Lee Shaw Partnership on 01384 396066 or visit www.leeshaw.com website.

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ADVERTISEMENT

3-STOREY HOMES WITH AN UNEXPECTED BONUS...

At Woodlands, Bilston, you are spoilt for choice when it comes to desirable 2, 3 and 4 bedroom new homes. But there's one home that gives you rather more than you expected...although described and priced as a 3 bedroom property, The Hanbury actually comes with a very handy Bonus Room.

Situated on the top floor, the Bonus Room is a wonderfully versatile space that lets you enhance your lifestyle in all kinds of ways. Use it as a dressing room, a study, hobby room, play room - whatever you want it to be. The 3-storey Hanbury townhouse represents modern living at its best from only **£127,996**^ through **Help to Buy** *(full purchase price £159,995)*.

Well planned, well located

Woodlands is a carefully thought-out development by 2014 What House? award winners Kier Living who have created a well-planned living environment in a brilliantly convenient location. Not only is Woodlands in easy reach of all the big Midlands' City Centres, it also has many excellent amenities virtually on the doorstep, ranging from several supermarkets to a choice of schools, from indoor and outdoor markets to a state-of-the-art Leisure Centre with many fantastic facilities.

Highly desirable, inside and out

All the homes are fitted out to a high standard with fashionable kitchens, including fitted appliances, and luxury features for selected plots such as en suites and fitted wardrobes in the master bedroom. The house designs are contemporary and stylish set in a landscaped environment that includes gently curving roads, a balancing pond and mature trees. Thoughtful planning and a high standard of finish are the hallmarks of Kier Living.

New Hanbury showhome

If you're interested in seeing The Hanbury home for yourself, then be sure to visit Woodlands this coming weekend when Kier Living will be opening their new Hanbury showhome. It's an opportunity to see just what can be achieved with interior design and of course you can check out the possibilities of that Bonus Room for yourself.

Seeing is believing

Whatever kind of new home you're looking for, a visit to Woodlands is highly recommended. It's the only way to get a feel for the lovely environment that has been created and a chance to chat with the helpful sales assistants who can answer your questions about the development. To discover more simply call **Woodlands on 01902 497681**.

Photograph of a typical Kier showhome. Elevations and finishes may vary. ^Help to Buy is available upon request subject to terms and conditions.

KIER

www.kierliving.co.uk

bonus room

The **3 storey Hanbury** offers 3 bedrooms, an impressive specification fitted as standard plus a clever extra design feature - a **Bonus Room** - that you can use to enhance your lifestyle which could be a dressing room, study, a hobby room, play room or a whatever you want room!

All from **£127,996**^ through **Help to Buy** *(full purchase price £159,995)*.

Come and see our spectacular Hanbury showhome and discover more.

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Help to Buy

Photograph of the Hanbury 3 bedroom homes. Elevations and finishes may vary. ^Help to Buy is available upon request subject to terms and conditions.

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New

KINGSWINFORD, Court Crescent

An OUTSTANDING SEMI-DETACHED FAMILY HOME, close to desirable schools, having been SUBSTANTIALLY EXTENDED offering a LARGE FOUR/FIVE BEDROOM layout with ENSUITE. With a BROAD DRIVEWAY, LARGE DOUBLE GARAGE and secluded landscaped rear/side garden. EPC C

£269,950

SEDGLEY, Northway

EXTENDED, Freehold, gas centrally heated, double glazed detached with flexible room arrangements comprising; porch, hallway, L shape through living room, dining room, rear hallway, cloakroom, secondary lounge, well equipped kitchen. Two staircases to first floor with FOUR BEDROOMS (one with bathroom en suite) and further shower room, Garage, parking, garden, EPC: D SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £269,000

GORNAL WOOD, Himley Road

Highly individual, REMARKABLY SPACIOUS, gas centrally heated, uPVC double glazed, FOUR DOUBLE BEDROOM (two en-suite) detached imaginatively planned to an exciting contemporary design comprising; reception hall, cloakroom, dining room, magnificent 17'8" lounge, well equipped kitchen. Second bedroom with shower room en suite, Two further double bedrooms, bathroom with white suite, and to the Second floor a magnificent principal bedroom suite with a range of fitted units & shower room en suite. Garage. Neat garden. EPC: C. SEDGLEY

New price — WAS £260,00, NOW £249,950

Dudley, Parkway Road

TRADITIONAL, SUBSTANTIAL AND EXTENDED, SEMI-DETACHED HOME overlooking GRANGE PARK with FOUR DOUBLE BEDROOMS and THREE RECEPTION ROOMS. Comprising: Hall, Kitchen, Conservatory, TWO BATHROOMS, Guests Cloakroom, Driveway, Large Garden EPC D

£189,950

New

UPPER GORNAL, Pale Street

SPACIOUS, NEW BUILD, gas centrally heated, double glazed dormer style detached with remarkably flexible room arrangements. Conveniently situated, the accommodation comprises; hall, stylish BATHROOM, double bedroom, magnificent 'hub of the house' 19 ft living/dining room/kitchen. To the first floor is a large 20'7" principal bedroom with shower room en suite.Parking, landscaped gardens, good distant views. EPC: T.B.A. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £189,950

New

WORDSLEY, Balmoral Road

An IMPROVED DETACHED BUNGALOW upon sought after 'Ashwood Park / Forest Lawns', offering a spacious and re-appointed layout of accommodation which is ready to move into, with large tarmac driveway, garage and a beautifully landscaped rear garden. EPC D

£184,950

TIPTON, Woodcroft Avenue

A well-proportioned, traditional detached residence situated in a popular area of Tipton a benefitting from, UPVC double glazing, gas central heating, porch, entrance hall, living room, L-shaped lounge-diner, good-sized kitchen, ground-floor bathroom, TWO BEDROOMS, shower room, integral garage, enclosed rear garden, driveway and garden to front. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC: E. SEDGLEY

Offers around £174,950

LOWER GORNAL, Summer Lane

A delightful conscientiously maintained freehold gas centrally heated and primarily UPVC double glazed DETACHED with further potential and NO UPWARD CHAIN. Accommodation includes hall, lounge, breakfast kitchen. Three generous bedrooms, upgraded bathroom, integral 19ft garage, neat garden. EPC: D. SEDGLEY

Offers in the Region of £170,000

PENSNETT, Tansey Green Road

An IMPRESSIVE SEMI DETACHED FAMILY HOME which is IMMACULATELY PRESENTED and BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED throughout, with a re-fitted kitchen, THREE BEDROOMS and re-fitted bathroom, DRIVEWAY, GARAGE and a LARGE LEVEL PRIVATE & SUNNY REAR GARDEN. EPC C

Now available — £149,950

LOWER GORNAL, Grosvenor Road

This surprisingly large and extremely well presented UPVC double glazed gas centrally heated detached dormer style BUNGALOW situated in the popular Lower Gornal area and benefits from entrance hallway, lounge, kitchen, conservatory, THREE BEDROOMS (en suite to master), two large garages, front and rear gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY

New price — WAS £154,950, NOW £149,950

WOODSETTON, Chartwell Close

An attractive significantly improved conscientiously maintained gas centrally heated UPVC double glazed semi detached in short convenient cul de sac. Superb (recently redecorated throughout) stylish accommodation includes hallway, 15ft lounge, dining room (with patio doors), kitchen, large pantry, three generous bedrooms, tiled bathroom with white suite, garage, delightful neat well tended garden. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE

Offers in the Region of £149,000

COSELEY, Jevon Street

SO CONVENIENT! - Within immediate walking distance of Roseville centre a highly individual, gas centrally heated and uPVC double glazed DETACHED with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Accommodation provides hall, fitted cloakroom, lounge (with double French doors out to garden), dining room, store, kitchen, Three bedrooms, bathroom. Substantial brick garage, sheltered garden. EPC: D SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £147,500

PENSNETT, Corbyns Hall Road

TRADITIONAL & MODERNISED, SEMI-DETACHED HOME having THREE BEDROOMS and a STUNNING KITCHEN WITH EXTENDED DINING AREA. Also comprising: Hall, Utility, Lounge, Guests W.C, Contemporary Bathroom, Driveway, Pretty Garden. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC:D

£144,950

DUDLEY, Garrick Close, 'Earls Keep'

GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT - a RARE OPPORTUNITY a gas centrally heated and UPVC double glazed ground floor apartment set upon well regraded development. Accommodation provides central reception hall, two generous bedrooms (principle bedroom with built in wardrobes and shower room en suite), lounge with bay, dining section with bay, kitchen, bathroom, extensive communal grounds/allocated parking. EPC C. SEDGLEY

Offers in the Region of £125,000

HOLLY HALL, Bromford Road

Pleasantly situated within this popular address, this BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED, THREE BEDROOM, SEMI DETACHED HOME, briefly comprises: Hall, Sitting Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Generous Bedrooms, Shower Room and a Large Garden. EPC C

£124,950

New

DUDLEY, Bramble Green, Old Park Farm estate

Beautifully presented, conscientiously maintained semi-detached property situated on a good sized corner plot in a quiet cul-de-sac location. This family home benefits from porch, entrance hall, living room, kitchen, dining room, conservatory, utility room, guest w/c, family bathroom, THREE BEDROOMS, part double glazed and gas centrally heated, drive to front and good-sized enclosed rear garden. EPC rating C. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £124,950

New

UPPER GORNAL, Naylors Grove

NO UPWARD CHAIN. Well presented good-sized family property situated in the popular area of Upper Gornal.The gas centrally heated accommodation includes entrance hall, living room, dining room, breakfast-kitchen, conservatory, guest W/C, utility, THREE BEDROOMS, bathroom. Enclosed rear garden, driveway to front. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY.

Offers in the region of £122,500

SEDGLEY, Townsend Avenue

Comparatively spacious, gas centrally heated, double glazed, loft & cavity wall insulated semi detached with scope for further improvement within walking distance of the Bull Ring & enjoying good distant views comprising porch, hall, lounge, kitchen, dining room, outer lobby, two stores, w.c. Three bedrooms, shower room (former bathroom) with a white suite. Drive (kerb dropped), sheltered garden. EPC: C. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £120,000

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COSELEY, Southall Crescent

CONSTRUCTED IN 2008 a SPACIOUS, double glazed, gas centrally heated detached set at head of private driveway & comprising porch, hall, cloakroom, lounge, CONSERVATORY, kitchen, utility room. THREE BEDROOMS (two with built in wardrobes & principal bedroom with shower room en suite), bathroom, garage, extensive parking, gardens. EPC C SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £230,000

SEDGLEY, Sunningdale Road, Northway

ENVIABLE LOCATION! Backing onto fields and with PANORAMIC DISTANT VIEWS a conscientiously maintained, uPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated detached with tremendous potential in favoured 'backwater' location. Accommodation includes entrance porch, reception hall, through living/dining room, kitchen, utility room. Three bedrooms, bathroom, generous garage, gardens. EPC: E. SEDGLEY

Offers in the Region of £209,950

DUDLEY, Himley Road

Quirky, gas centrally heated, double glazed house comprising; hall, cloaks, lounge, sitting room, breakfast room, kitchen,4 bedrooms, bathroom, dormer attic. Extensive grounds, Mining Search available. EPC:E.SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £179,950

New

KINGSWINFORD, Standhills Road

Forming part of this much sought after address close to local shops / amenities, this TRADITIONAL TWO BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED BUNGALOW offers a very generous layout, plus driveway, carport, GARAGE and a large attractively landscaped garden. EPC D

No upward chain **£169,950**

Dudley, East Street

This SUBSTANTIAL and EXTENDED, SEMI-DETACHED HOME is furnished with a LARGE WELL FITTED KITCHEN and FOUR GENEROUS BEDROOMS. Also comprising: TWO RECEPTION ROOMS, FAMILY BATHROOM, En Suite Shower Room, Driveway, GARAGE and a Pleasant Rear Garden. EPC: D

£169,500

New

KINGSWINFORD, Bromley Lane

A DECEPTIVE PERIOD SEMI-DETACHED HOME within a popular address, offering generous accommodation with two large reception rooms and THREE GOOD SIZED BEDROOMS. Set beyond the front driveway and with a large beautifully laid out rear garden EPC F.

£154,950

PENSNETT, The Plantation

Located within this delightful cul de sac, this EXTENDED MUCKLOW SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE requires updating, yet offers FANTASTIC POTENTIAL to enhance the already spacious, versatile layout. With driveway, GARAGE and a large pleasantly laid out garden. EPC E

New price **£154,950**

New

WOODSETTON, Park Close

Attractive, Freehold, gas centrally heated,mostly uPVC double glazed semi detached at head of short cul-de-sac briefly comprising; entrance porch, hall, lounge with bay, dining room, kitchen. Three bedrooms, tiled bathroom. Parking, secluded rear garden with substantial timber workroom. EPC: T.B.A. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £150,000

New

KINGSWINFORD, The Portway

This EXTENDED & BEAUTIFULLY IMPROVED TRADITIONAL SEMI-DETACHED HOME is well placed and offers an impressively spacious, attractively appointed layout with a large side extension plus TWO/THREE BEDROOMS. With LONG DRIVEWAY and a large rear garden. EPC TBA

£144,950

New

LOWER GORNAL, Bayswater Road

OUTSTANDING! Comprehensively modernised, exceptionally stylish, gas centrally heated, double glazed intermediate family home that has been 'transformed' by present vendors to an exemplary standard comprising; hall, cloakroom, lounge, refitted 'hub of the house' dining kitchen with integrated appliances and a range of 'birch' finish units, conservatory. Three bedrooms, bathroom with white suite. Block paved foregarden, secluded garden. EPC: TBA. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £135,000

LOWER GORNAL, The Straits

An attractive SIGNIFICANTLY EXTENDED gas centrally heated and UPVC double glazed semi detached 'miner cottage' with NO UPWARD CHAIN enviably situated in favoured/convenient district. The property offers further potential and presently comprises entrance hallway, lounge, extended 17ft 'hub of the house' dining kitchen (with patio doors out to garden), lobby, separate toilet. Two bedrooms, bathroom, delightful particularly lengthy sheltered rear garden. EPC C SEDGLEY

Offers in the Region of £135,000

GORNAL WOOD , Bank Road

WALKING DISTANCE OF VILLAGE! A gas centrally heated, & uPVC double glazed semi detached that has been completely redecorated and refreshed in recent months comprising; hall, cloaks, kitchen, living/dining room. THREE BEDROOMS (principal bedroom with a shower room en suite), bathroom. Parking, garden. EPC Rating: C. SEDGLEY

Offers in the Region of £130,000

SEDGLEY, Hickmerelands Lane

Fantastically situated at the head of a quiet cul-de-sac this well presented semi-detached property benefits from upvc double glazing, gas central heating, THREE BEDROOMS, living room, dining room, fitted kitchen, utility, guest w/c, family bathroom, enclosed rear garden. VIEWING RECOMMENDED. EPC: D. SEDGLEY

Offers in the Region of £129,950

New

DUDLEY, Old Park Road

An extended traditional semi-detached property that benefits from entrance hallway, living room, dining room, extended kitchen, family bathroom, THREE BEDROOMS, enclosed rear garden, driveway to fore and offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating TBA. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £114,950

LANESFIELD, Ward Grove

A delightfully presented and well maintained bungalow which is conveniently situated in the Lanesfield area and benefits from upvc double glazing, gas central heating, TWO bedrooms, living room, fitted kitchen, shower room, good-sized enclosed rear garden off road parking. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC:D SEDGLEY

New price **WAS £119,950, NOW £114,950**

LOWER GORNAL, Wealdstone Drive

A delightfully presented property situated in the popular area of Lower Gornal, benefitting from UPVC double glazing, part gas central heating, entrance hall way, guest W/C, living room, kitchen-diner, THREE BEDROOMS, family bathroom, enclosed rear garden, garden to front. Ideal first time buyer property. EPC: D. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £114,950

GORNAL WOOD, Brook Street

Beautifully presented, traditional, uPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated, TWO BEDROOM mid-terraced property set in the popular, Gornal Wood. This fabulous home benefits from well-presented living room, attractive breakfast-kitchen, utility area, stunning Victorian style bathroom, good-sized master bedroom, stunning cottage style enclosed rear garden. Viewing Essential to appreciate what this property has to offer. EPC: D. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £114,950

NETHERTON, Cradley Road

This THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED HOME, benefits from a HUGE GARDEN and has great potential to create a superb family home. Comprising: Hall, Kitchen, Sitting Room, Dining Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Driveway, Garage. NO UPWARD CHAIN EPC E

New price **£108,000**

www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk

Modern one-bed ground foor apartment available

THIS modern one-bedroomed ground floor apartment in Donnington Court, Dudley, is beautifully presented and for sale through Your Move at offers over £80,000 with no chain.

With double glazing and gas central heating it has an entrance with an intercom, an entrance hallway, a bathroom with ceramic floor tiling and wall tiling.

There is one double bedroom and an open-plan fitted kitchen/living room with a range of fitted light wood effect modern units and contrasting working surfaces, an integrated hob and oven, stainless steel splash-back and ceramic floor tiling throughout.

For further information contact Your Move on (01384) 455000 or visit the site www.your-move.co.uk website.

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DUDLEY, Occupation Street

Well maintained end of terraced property which offers potential and is an ideal starter home. It is situated in the sought after area of Dudley and benefits from upvc double glazing, gas central heating, TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS, through-lounge, kitchen, fitted shower room, enclosed rear garden, driveway to front and detached garage. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC:D. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £107,950

New

HOLLY HALL, Stourbridge Road

This DECEPTIVELY SPACIOUS, THREE BEDROOM, 'VICTORIAN' STYLE, TERRACED HOME should appeal to FIRST TIME BUYERS, BUY-TO-LET INVESTORS & FAMILIES and comprises: TWO RECEPTION ROOMS, Kitchen, Bathroom, THREE BEDROOMS & Pleasant Rear Garden. EPC: E

£104,950

New

Dudley, Dudley Wood Road

This MOST DECEPTIVE, 'VICTORIAN' STYLE TERRACED HOME would make a LOVELY FIRST HOME or SHREWD INVESTEMENT PROPERTY & comprises: TWO RECEPTION ROOMS, Kitchen, Bathroom, TWO LARGE BEDROOMS, Fantastic Garden, GARAGE. NO UPWARD CHAIN! EPC:

£99,950

PENSNETT, Milton Street

This SPACIOUS, THREE BEDROOM PROPERTY would make a FANTASTIC FAMILY HOME or BUY-TO-LET INVESTMENT. Comprising: Hall, Sitting Room, Dining Kitchen, Guests Cloakroom, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Rear Garden, Driveway. NO UPWARD CHAIN! EPC: D

£95,950

QUARRY BANK, Osbourne Close

This THREE BEDROOM HOME is situated in close proximity to QUARRY BANK HIGH STREET and comprises: Hall, Lounge, Kitchen Diner, Three First Floor Bedrooms, Bathroom, Pleasant Front & Rear Gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN! EPC F

New price £94,995

New

BROCKMOOR, Campbell Street

This SPACIOUS, 'PERIOD' STYLE, THREE BEDROOM, END TERRACE HOME is offered 'for sale' with NO UPWARD CHAIN & comprises: TWO RECEPTION ROOMS, GENEROUS FITTED KITCHEN, Bathroom, Three First Floor Bedrooms & Rear Garden. EPC: E

£89,950

COSELEY, Hospital Lane

EXTENDED gas centrally heated uPVC double glazed semi detached for improvement; hall, lounge, dining room, pantry, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom. Off road parking to front and comparatively lengthy garden. Mining History available. EPC: D SEDGLEY

New price WAS £94,950, NOW £89,950

NETHERTON, Farm Road

This TRADITIONAL, TWO BEDROOM, SEMI DETACHED HOME offers EXCELLENT POTENTIAL and would make the ideal FIRST HOME. Briefly comprises: Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Two Generous Bedrooms, Bathroom, Front and Rear Gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN! EPC: F

New price £79,950

New

WORDSLEY, Kinver Street

A BEAUTIFULLY IMPROVED and SPACIOUS FIRST FLOOR FLAT well placed and includes: Private ground floor entrance, Inner Hall, spacious Lounge, refitted Kitchen, DOUBLE BEDROOM and refitted Bathroom RESIDENT/VISITOR PARKING and COMMUNAL GARDENS. EPC D

£77,500

COSELEY, Andersleigh Drive

Conscientiously maintained GROUND FLOOR double glazed flat with allocated & secluded rear garden set at head of cul de sac in a convenient district briefly comprising; entrance hallway, kitchen with cream finish units, lounge, lobby, double bedroom, bathroom. Allocated parking, garden. EPC: D SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £74,950

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PROPERTY AUCTION - 20th OCTOBER 2015

638 PARKFIELD ROAD
PARKFIELDS, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV4 6EH

Popular location, Mid Terraced, canopy Porch, Two Reception, large Rear Hall, Cellar, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, large Bathroom, Gas CH., some Double Glazing. Outside: Two Stores, long garden EPC E54

Guide: £60,000 / £65,000

VIEWING:
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 16th & 17th OCTOBER @ 10.30 a.m.

3 CASTLECROFT ROAD
BILSTON, WV14 6PQ

Investment – current income £5,700 p.a.x.
Conveniently situated Semi-Detached, Double Glazing, Gas CH,
Hall, Lounge , Kitchen, Rear Hall, fitted Cloakroom
Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, enclosed Rear Garden EPC E45

Guide: £70,000 / £75,000

VIEWING:
FRIDAY & MONDAY, 16th & 19th OCTOBER @ 10.00 a.m.

86 CASTLECROFT ROAD
CASTLECROFT, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV3 8DA

Good residential area, well appointed Bungalow, Gas CH
Porch, Hall, 22ft Lounge, fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom
Store, ample Parking & Garage, lovely 100ft Rear Garden EPC D60

Guide: £113,000 / £118,000

VIEWING:
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 16th & 17th OCTOBER @ 11.15 a.m.

3 PRIESTFIELD STREET
BILSTON, WV14 0NE

Investment – Current income £6,300 p.a.x.
Large Mid Terraced in ideal location
Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Rear Hall, WC & Store
Three double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, attractive Rear Garden EPC E41

Guide: £70,000 / £75,000

VIEWING:
FRIDAY & MONDAY, 9th & 19th OCTOBER @ 10.45 a.m.

14 GLOUCESTER STREET
WOLVERHAMPTON, WV6 0PT

Well located Mid Terraced, Two Reception, Ground Floor Bathroom, Two double Bedrooms, Gas CH system, Double Glazing EPC E40

Guide: £48,000 / £53,000

VIEWING:
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 16th & 17th OCTOBER @ 12.00 noon

'CHAPEL COTTAGE'
OLD STOWHEATH LANE, WV1 2QN

Character Detached House with large grounds, outbuildings & Garage
Double Glazing, Gas Heating, Two Reception, Kitchen, Sun Lounge
Two Bedrooms, Bathroom – ample scope to extend STPP EPC E43

Guide: £115,000 /£120,000

VIEWING:
FRIDAY & MONDAY, 9th & 19th OCTOBER @ 11.30 a.m.

41 STRATTON STREET
WOLVERHAMPTON, WV10 9AJ

Exceptionally well presented End Terraced Home
Two Reception, well appointed Kitchen, Rear Hall, large Bathroom, Three Bedrooms
Private Garden, Double Glazing, Gas CH EPC D62

Guide: £59,000 / £64,000

VIEWING:
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 16th & 17th OCTOBER @ 12.45 p.m.

38 STUBBS ROAD, PENN FIELDS, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV3 7DJ

Investment
Advised Current income £22,735 p.a.
Potential when fully let £34,747 p.a.
Large Period House offering Nine Flats – six let – three vacant – ample off-road parking and lovely rear garden, well presented throughout. EPC G19

Guide: £365,000 / £375,000

VIEWING:
FRIDAY 16th OCTOBER @ 12.30 p.m.
MONDAY 19th OCTOBER @ 3.00 p.m.

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BROCKMOOR
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Purchase Price £139,950

BROCKMOOR
STATION ROAD

Very conveniently positioned in this popular address this very deceptive 2 Bedroomed Intermediate Terrace provides refreshingly spacious GAS CENTRALLY HEATED and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accom ideal for the First Time Buyer, young family or Investor and whilst requiring certain upgrading offers tremendous further potential. Available with NO UPWARD CHAIN and including Reception Hall, spacious lounge, large Dining Kitchen, 2 Double Bedrooms, Bathroom and pleasant well kept enclosed rear Garden. EPC=TBC

Offers around £89,950

KINGSWINFORD
CHELFORD CRESCENT

Attractively presented 3 Bed Link Detached provides refreshingly spacious GAS CENTRALLY HEATED and DOUBLE GLAZED accom ideal for the young family and is pleasantly situated in this popular and convenient 'Crescent'. Extended Hall, Downs W.C., Spacious 'L' shaped Lounge with Dning Area, Attractively fitted Kitchen with built-in oven and hob, 3 Well proportioned Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom with shower, Side Garage with long Driveway for 2/3 cars and pleasant enclosed Rear Gardens.EPC=E

Offers around £169,950

BRIERLEY HILL
HENZEL CROFT

This delightfully presented 3 Bed Semi provides spacious GAS CENTRALLY HEATED and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED family accom set over 3 floors in this popular and very convenient cul-de-sac. Hall, Downs W.C., spacious Lounge, super fitted Kitchen with built-in oven and hob, 2 Double First Floor bedrooms, fitted Bathroom, large Attic/ Master Bedroom with Dressing Area and EN SUITE Shower Room off, Side Garage, pleasant lawned rear Garden and driveway to front.EPC=D

Offers around £159,950

QUARRY BANK
MARGARET CLOSE

Pleasantly situated on a larger than average plot at the head of this respected and very popular cul-de-sac, this spacious GAS CENTRALLY HEATED and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED 3 Bed Semi offers accom ideal for the young family and whilst requiring gentle upgrading provides tremendous further potential. NO UPWARD CHAIN. Hall, spacious Lounge with Dining Area, elegant Conservatory, fitted Kitchen with built-in oven and hob, 3 good Bedrooms (with fitted wardrobes), Bathroom, Sep W.C., pleasant "cottage" style rear Gardens with sunny outlook, Detached Side Garage and driveway for 2/3 cars. EPC=D

Offers around £159,950

BRIERLEY HILL
MILL STREET

This attractively presented 3 Bed Semi-Detached provides deceptively spacious GAS CENTRALLY HEATED and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accom ideal for the discerning young Family and is very conveniently located for the Merry Hill Centre and good local schools. Hall, Downs W.C., attractive Lounge, stylishly fitted Kitchen, Elegant Conservatory, 3 well proportioned Bedrooms, attractively fitted Bathroom with Shower, Integral Garage, pleasant lawned Rear Gardens with westerly aspect and Driveway to front. EPC=D

Offers around £139,995

BRIERLEY HILL
GOLDEN CROSS WAY

This superbly presented recently redecorated and recarpeted 3 Bed Intermediate Townhouse provides refreshingly spacious GAS CENTRALLY HEATED and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accom ideal for the discerning young family and is available with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Hall, Downs W.C, spacious Lounge, separate Dining Area opening to attractively fitted Kitchen with built in oven and hob, 3 good Bedrooms (Master with SHOWER EN SUITE off) , fitted Bathroom, pleasant low maintenance rear Garden and 2 allocated car parking spaces to rear. EPC=C

Offers around £134,950

NETHERTON
CINDERBANK

SPECIAL OFFER ! This attractively presented Modern 2 Bed Semi-Detached provides well planned GAS CENTRALLY HEATED and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accom ideal for the discerning First Time Buyer or young family and is pleasantly situated in this popular and very convenient address. Hall, Spacious Lounge, Attractively Refitted Kitchen with built in oven and hob, 2 Good Bedrooms (with fitted wardrobes), stylishly Fitted Bathroom with Shower, Pleasant Lawned Rear Gardens and Driveway Parking to the Front. EPC=D

£108,000 TILL 31/10/15

NETHERTON
COPSE ROAD

Pleasantly situated in this popular and convenient address, this 3 Bed Semi provides spacious UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accom which although requires upgrading and improvement provides tremendous further potential for the First Time Buyer or young family. NO UPWARD CHAIN Hall, spacious Lounge, Kitchen, 3 well proportioned Bedrooms, Bathroom, separate W/C and pleasant good sized level rear gardens with Southerly facing aspect. EPC=G

Offers around £102,500

BRIERLEY HILL
MOOR STREET

This attractively presented 2 Bed Intermediate Townhouse is pleasantly and conveniently positioned at the front of this popular development and provides deceptively spacious UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accom ideal for the First Time buyer or young family. Briefly comprises:- Attractive Lounge, REFITTED DINING KITCHEN with built in oven and hob, 2 Bedrooms, Fitted Bathroom with shower, pleasant enclosed Rear Gardens with open outlook and CAR PARKING space to the rear.EPC=D

Offers around £94,950

TIVIDALE
RED LION CLOSE

MAKE US A SENSIBLE OFFER ! This delightfully presented, stylishly decorated Modern One Bed Ground Floor Flat provides deceptively spacious UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accom with electric heating ideal for the First Time Buyer, single person or INVESTOR and is available with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Includes: Entrance Hall, spacious Lounge opening to Stylish REFITTED KITCHEN with built-in oven and hob, Inner Hall with Useful storage cupboards, Double Bedroom, SUMPTUOUS REFITTED BATHROOM and communally kept Gardens. EPC=E

Offers around £64,950

NETHERTON
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PENSNETT, BRIERLEY HILL

VICTORIA STREET OFF HIGH OAK DY5 4LA

REDEVELOPMENT SITE WITH OUT-LINE PLANNING CONSENT FOR TEN HOUSES- 6 No. Semis, Block of 3 No. Townhouses & 1 No. detached. in cul-de-sac off High Oak (B4179) within quarter of a mile of Pensnett centre (APPLICATION NO. P13/1270 - DMBC DECISION NOTICE 19/11/13) (REF SB4162)

OFFERS £360,000

WOLLASTON, STOURBRIDGE

RELIANCE GARAGE, HIGH STREET (A461) DY8 4HE

POTENTIAL REDEVELOPMENT SITE WITH LAPSED PLANNING CONSENT GRANTED BY DUDLEY MBC (APPLICA-TION NO. P11/0812) FOR 5 No. UNITS -BLOCK OF 3 HOUSES AND PAIR OF SEMI-DETACHED BUNGALOWS, IN MUCH IMPROVING AREA. (REF.SB4079)

OFFERS £275,000

LYE, STOURBRIDGE

BALDS LANE TAVERN SITE, BALDS LANE. DY9 8SH

DEVELOPMENT SITE WITH PLANNING CONSENT GRANTED BY DUDLEY MBC. (APPLICATION NO. P13/1398) FOR BLOCK OF 3 NO. TWO BED TOWNHOUSES AND PAIR OF TWO BED SEMIS,IN ESTABLISHED LOCA-TION OFF HIGH ST./THE HAYES (A458). (REF.SB4035)

OFFERS £139,500

QUARRY BANK, BRIERLEY HILL

1A BOWER LANE (R/O 21 PARK ROAD) DY5 2DD

PLANNING CONSENT GRANTED BY DUDLEY MBC (APPLICATION NO.P10/0647/E1) FOR THE ERECTION OF A THREE BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE, IN ESTABLISHED BACKWATER LOCATION. (REF.SB4058)

OFFERS £49,500

NETHERTON, DUDLEY

7 BAPTIST END ROAD DY2 9BU

BUILDING PLOT WITH PLANNING CONSENT GRANTED BY DUDLEY MBC (APP. NO. P14/0366) FOR 3 BED DETACHED HOUSE, IN ESTABLISHED LOCATION. (REF.SB4155)

OFFERS £37,500

LAND REQUIRED

WITH OR WITHOUT PLANNING PERMISSION

****

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- Three bedrooms, Bathroom
- Gas C/htg/double glazed
- Private landscaped gardens

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £209,950

GORNAL

BRICK KILN LANE

- Semi detached
- Hall, Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen, Cloakroom
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gas C/htg/Double glazed
- In need of updating

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £149,950

GORNAL

MUSK LANE

- Detached
- Cottage Style
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- Sitting Room
- Two Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gas C/htg/Double Glazed
- Sizeable Corner Plot

OFFERS BASED ON £164,950

THE STRAITS

HIGH ARCAL ROAD

- Detached bungalow
- Individual design, Extended
- Hall, Lounge
- Study/Dining room
- Cloakroom, Fitted kitchen
- Three bedrooms, Bathroom
- Garage
- Gas C/htg/Double glazed
- Landscaped gardens

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £244,950

GORNAL

WOOD ROAD

- Semi detached
- Hall, Lounge
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gas C/htg/Double glazed
- Parking
- Sizeable Gardens

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £117,500

GORNAL

ST CHADS CLOSE

- Modern Bungalow
- Detached
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- One Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Parking
- Gardens

OFFERS BASED ON £124,950

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New member for the team

Vauxhall sales have rarely been stronger than they are now, so T. Wall Vauxhall has been recruiting more members of the sales team. Paul Westwood has now arrived at the Kingswinford dealership to take up his role as a member of the sales force bringing with him around 20 years vehicle retailing experience gained mainly at the Brindley Group.

Paul's knowledge and expertise was gained through working with the Ford, Toyota, Citroen and Volvo franchises. He held the position of sales manager at the group's Citroen franchise for 18 months but left the company taking on a new challenge.

He returned for a second spell with the company by becoming a part of the firm's Volvo sales team. Within 12 months he'd worked his way up to the position of sales manager.

Paul has also been an Accredited Motability Specialist for more than a decade. He'll take time to find and explain the various options open to Motability customers and works to match their individual needs, his vast product knowledge coming into play.

Paul's friendly demeanour and excellent customer service skills have brought him many loyal customers. Paul says: "It's really gratifying when customers actually seek you out personally when they wish to purchase a car. And it's good to have confidence in the products that you sell."

"I'm excited to be involved with the Vauxhall brand. The manufacturer is producing some terrific products right now, and more are just around the corner, new models such as the seventh generation Astra. It's just stunning to look at and extremely competitive when it comes to running costs, spacious, performance, handling and style."

"Here's more good news," says Paul. "It's mainly British as both the hatch and estate versions are produced at Ellesmere Port."

Knowledge big benefit

With around 32 years motor industry experience to call upon Mark Johnson has joined the sales team at T. Wall Vauxhall in Pensnett, Kingswinford. An ex-Brindleys Group employee for around 20 years, Mark held various positions within the company, working his way up to the ranks to become sales manager, and then general manager.

Mark's product knowledge is very considerable, particularly when it comes to Vauxhall, Citroen, Volkswagen and Audi, as these have been the franchises that he has been deeply involved with. Mark has also been employed at Wolverhampton Motor Services where he was responsible for the sale of many Volkswagen and Audi cars.

A resident of Wolverhampton, Mark is delighted to have joined the sales operation at T. Wall Vauxhall.

He says: "I've been made to feel very welcome by my colleagues in the sales team.

"It's an excellent company to be working for and shares my passion for customer care, where the requirements of every customer are always paramount."

He continues: "With a stream of brand new models having been released, and yet more on the way, it's an exciting time to be representing Vauxhall.

"The release of the all-new Astra is almost upon us and we're all working hard to prepare for this sleek new model's official showroom launch."

Over the years Mark has gained a substantial following with car buyers actually seeking him out as they like dealing with him.

"I've only been here at T. Wall for a couple of weeks," he says, "but I'm already meeting customers from the past.

"It's essential to enjoy meeting people in this job, and of course, I'm looking forward to meeting new customers too."

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Highest: VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4i 120PS 16v Exclusive Turbo A/C with 15", 16" and 17" wheels, A6: Urban: 29.7 (9.5), Extra-urban: 49.6 (5.7), Combined: 39.8 (7.1). CO_2 emissions: 166g/km Lowest: VAUXHALL Viva 5 Door Hatchback 1.0i 75PS SE with Eco Tyre 14", 15" and 16" wheels, M5: Urban: 52.3 (5.4), Extra-urban: 76.3 (3.7), Combined: 65.7 (4.3). CO_2 emissions: 99g/km.
Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors. Offers subject to availability, terms and conditions. Pictures for illustration purposes only.

Exclusivity and luxury in new SUV from Bentley

Bentley Motors has announced full details of its new model, the Bentayga which combines luxury with effortless performance and everyday usability. With an all-new W12 powertrain, the Bentayga is the fastest, most powerful, most luxurious and most exclusive SUV in the world. It offers a true Bentley driving experience and showcases innovative technology features.

Designed, engineered and handcrafted in Crewe, the Bentayga's styling is pure Bentley. Sculptural with an elegant, timeless execution, it perfectly balances athleticism with confidence. From the four round LED headlamps and large matrix grille, to the distinctive power line and muscular haunches, the Bentley DNA is apparent throughout.

The Bentley Bentayga boasts the world's finest automotive cabin, with unrivalled levels of precision. The detailing in metal, wood and leather – including meticulous tolerances between elements of trim – is the epitome of modern British luxury.

Refinement

An all-new twin-turbocharged 6.0-litre W12 engine is at the heart of the new Bentayga. The mighty 12-cylinder unit combines efficiency and refinement with ultra-luxurious levels of power and torque. With 608 PS (600 bhp / 447kW) and 900 Nm (663 lb. ft) delivering a 0-60 mph time of 4.0 seconds (0-100 km/h in 4.1 seconds) and a top speed of 187 mph (301 km/h), the Bentayga is the world's most powerful and fastest SUV.

A suite of state-of-the-art driver assistance systems and infotainment features designed to enhance safety, comfort and convenience make the Bentayga an innovative, advanced and connected luxury SUV.

Innovative systems available on the Bentayga include Electronic Night Vision, which uses infra-red technology to identify potential obstacles ahead, and a Head-Up Display, which reduces driver distraction and increases safety. The Bentayga's all-new, cutting-edge 8" touch screen infotainment system boasts class-leading navigation technology, a 60GB hard drive, and a choice of up to 30 languages. Rear seat passengers benefit from the introduction of the Bentley Entertainment Tablet – a removable 10.2" Android device with 4G, WiFi and Bluetooth for effortless, high-speed on-board connectivity.

Customers can choose between three different sound systems for the Bentayga: Bentley Standard Audio, Bentley Signature Audio and Naim for Bentley Premium Audio. The latter is the most powerful system in the segment, with 1,950 watts, a network of 18 speakers and super-tweeters for unrivalled recreation of the highest audio frequencies.

A combination of advanced design, innovative engineering and state-of-the-art manufacturing technologies – including the use of lightweight aluminium – has enabled a total weight saving of 236kg compared to a traditional body construction.

Finest

Step inside the new Bentayga and you find the finest automotive interior in the world, with handcrafted wood and leather throughout – engineered with precision to deliver absolute perfection. The attention to detail in metal, wood and leather is the epitome of modern British luxury, and is only achievable thanks to the exceptional skill of the workforce in Crewe.

Sumptuous front seats, individually handcrafted in Crewe and featuring 22-way adjustment including adjustable cushion and backrest bolsters, provide superb support and comfort for all conditions. This cosseted feeling is further enhanced with a six-programme massage system, seat heating and ventilation.

Whether selected in four or five-seat configuration, all of the leather seats in the Bentayga are available with contrast stitching and a quilted diamond design applied to the 'shoulders' and bolsters, echoing the design of a finely tailored British hunting jacket.

Never before has a vehicle so coherently combined genuine luxury with go-anywhere driving ability. The development programme for the Bentayga has been the most exhaustive in the Bentley brand's history, ranging across five continents.

From the dirt and gravel of South Africa and the dunes of Dubai, to the muddy fields of Cheshire, and from -30°C in the frozen North Cape to searing 50°C desert heat, the Bentayga's ability to perform on any surface and even in the most extreme conditions has been proven.

The Bentayga redefines personalisation and bespoke luxury. Paint, leather, veneer and lifestyle options are unlimited and tailored to the individual.

As with all Bentleys, the Bentayga can also be handed over to the highly skilled and dedicated craftspeople at Mulliner, who will respond to bespoke customer requirements.

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Dudley Chronicle Thursday, October 15, 2015

DS5 is a stylish class act

By John Griffiths

A car's styling is, to a great extent, a matter of personal choice: you love it, hate it or are left completely unmoved.

For me, the DS5 comes in that first category and that applies particularly to the car's interior – a mix of exclusive club lounge and aircraft cockpit. It's a pleasant, even exciting, place to be even before you press the starter button.

I've been trying self-analysis with regard to this response. Is it just different, and new (as any car can be) or is there a hint of repressed nostalgia for that iconic French motor of the 50s and 60s, the Citroën DS?

To me that legendary motor, while not without its issues, was a real innovator: space age looks yet a world away from the winged wonders inspired by American cars of that era. Plus it pioneered innovative features such as hydraulic self-levelling suspension and directional headlights.

Now DS Automobiles is a stand-alone premium brand under the Citroën umbrella. Like Toyota with Lexus and Nissan with Infiniti, such a rebranding of flagship models is undoubtedly a sensible way of breaking the badge domination of the premium German brands, and Jaguar, in this sector.

The DS5 tested – Presitige Blue 180bhp version – at £32,040 is a prime example, a big, smooth and economical car oozing Gallic style which will certainly make its driver stand out from the crowd in the company car park. No, I can't say it looks like the original DS, but as you pass an eye over its sleek lines there are hints which stir memories for car fans of a certain age. But inside it is thoroughly modern, and unique: vive la difference, one might say.

There's the crystal clear virtual instrument display in front of the driver, while at his side is a high centre console (no, not a transmission tunnel as it's front wheel drive) which means the array of switches and gear change level fall easily to hand, just in the right place. All switches are big and solid, with chromed rims.

Overhead there are front and rear sun roofs (with electrically controlled blinds) which makes the cabin feel light and airy, and give an impression that its even bigger than it actually is – in fact the DS5 will seat five adults in comfort.

In front, the sun roof is split into two (both can be opened and closed individually) divided by an aircraft style roof console, housing more toggle switches and controls.

The seats themselves are superbly shaped, well-padded leather and multi-adjustable – some of the most comfortable I can recall.

There is a seven-inch touch screen in the centre of the dashboard, controlling satnav, audio, trip computer and a range of other vehicle functions, plus a steering wheel with remote controls. Dual zone automatic climate control, noise-reducing window glass and an upmarket sound system are also part of the luxury package,

Under the bonnet there's a two-litre turbo diesel, turning out 180bhp and a whopping 400Nm of torque which is a good combination for smooth, swift progress, with good response at low revs, It's quiet, too, rarely raising its voice above a whisper and the ride is particularly supple and comfortable, a true descendant of the DS philosophy.

Its vital statistics are 0 to 62mph in 9.9 seconds, official average fuel consumption of 64.2mpg and (for a car of this size) an impressively low and tax-efficient CO2 rating of 114g/km.

The six-speed torque converter automatic gear box does its job well enough although it isn't perhaps as responsive as some of the latest dual clutch systems if you're pushing on. But then I'm not sure if this is part of the DS5's character: it's a car which seems more about the smooth, relaxed covering of distance rather than the traffic lights grand prix.

There's a long list of standard equipment, including cruise control front and rear parking sensors. rear parking camera, stability control, emergency brake assist, hill start assist, automatic headlights, and door mirrors with kerb lighting.

The other DS5 in Prestige Blue trim is the 2.0 litre six-speed manual, 150bhp model which starts from £29,560. The range has a three year. 60,000 mile warranty.

The DS5 is a class act, offering a blend of performance with economy and tax efficiency. You could say many new cars do that – and that's true, but in the DS you do it in style, and dare to be different.

'Is there a hint of repressed nostalgia for that iconic French motor of the 50s and 60s, the Citroën DS?'

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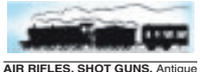

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UPHOLSTERY SERVICES 3pcs/ springs/caravans/pubs/club/antiques. 01902 689844 / 07817 842960.

4 Pets & Animals

vets

Express & Star
THIS SPACE COULD BE PROMOTING YOUR BUSINESS
Every day our customers get a great response from Classified Advertising.
So could you by calling our friendly experienced Sales Advisors on 01902 319191.

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

pets corner

GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS
All neutered, innoculated and chipped.
Call Greyhound Trust 01922 412212 or www.rgtwolverhampton.co.uk

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

CANARIES FOR SALE Red dimorphic and satinette. £15 each. 01384 833839 or 07711 570870.

EIGHT WEEK old kittens, weaned and litter trained. £20 each. 01902 689992.

FEMALE CAT, 2 years old, neutered and chipped, all vacinations, genuine reason for rehoming. £10. Telephone 07983 165655.

GERMAN SHEPHERD quality pedigree puppies, KC reg, black and tan. £400. 07779 742080.

KITTENS flead, ready now. £15 to ensure good home. 07765 807608.

ROSEDENE RESCUE CENTRE
1, Radley Road, Rushall, Walsall. WS4 1LN.
01922 627013.
Require volunteers for kennel cleaning, duties to include dog walking, feeding and watering.
We also require a driver with a clean licence to help take dogs to vets and home checks. Car provided.
Desperate for bedding, ie. sheets, blankets, towels, quilt covers, (no quilts).

ROSEDENE RESCUE CENTRE
1, Radley Road, Rushall, Walsall. WS4 1LN.
01922 627013.
Open Monday to Saturday 11am - 5pm.
Sundays - Bank Holidays 11am - 4pm.
Takes in relinquished dogs from owners, all areas (if they are vet checked/up to date with jabs.)
Donations of dog food, toys, bedding and vet bills always appreciated.
WE ARE ALSO NOW AVAILABLE FOR PET TAXI'S (No booking necessary).

TROPICAL FISH with 2 tanks, pump, heater and lamps, £30 the lot. 07968 291063.

WEDNESBURY SANCTUARY
Needs homes for
Chaz and Dave - 3 month old white and black boys.
Pinky - 15 month old black girl, spayed.
Sally - 1 year old white and black, spayed.
Are you that special person that could give a home to one of our rescued cats or kittens. £20 donation.
0121 502 5027.

5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

commercial premises sale / let

UNITS AND OFFICE SPACE to let in Oldbury, West Bromwich and Walsall. Easy Terms. Ashmore Properties: 0121 520 5318.

fruit picking

PYO AT NORBURY'S NORREST FARM
7 miles from Worcester, on A4103
(WR13 5HD) Worcester to Hereford Rd
Cox's, Kidd's Orange Red, Russets, Bramley
all 45p per LB
Weekends 10am to 5pm
Wed to Fri 2pm to 5pm

business directory

accountants

ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES for Small Business. Competitive Rates. Call 01902 882600

7 Jobs

courses

TOP GEAR Driver Training
- LGV / PCV Training
- 1-1 Gold Standard tuition
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www.topgear-lgv.com

CRH Transport Training Train and Test at our centre in West Brom 0121 3231777 crhtraining.co.uk

drivers

CLASS 2 DRIVER for furniture deliveries across the UK & Ireland. Minimum 2 nights out per week. Excellent rates & bonuses. Must have digital tachograph experience. Politeness & tidiness is of the essence. Clean licence preferred. For details call 01384 671560 Peter or Andy 07815878599.

RS RECOVERY LTD are recruiting Class 2 drivers to join our recovery team. Various shift patterns available. For more information please call Jas on 07732 695 098

full time - general

MIG WELDER/FABRICATOR Required for welding, saw and drilling duties. Temp to perm. position hourly rate £9ph 8.30am - 5pm Mon-fri Tipton area immediate start 0121 557 2333 or 07971 661575.

SITE OPERATIVE/ TEAM LEADER
required for a company specialising in utility pipeline maintenance.
Would suit personnel who have experience on gas and water mains and general pipework.
Working on emergency repairs which will include overtime.
CV's to
sales@pressleakage.com
Call
01384 298000.

Have you considered a career in care?
Hales Group are a prime provider of social care in the Dudley area. We are one of the fastest growing home care providers and need enthusiastic people to join our teams in Dudley and the surrounding areas: Stourbridge, Brierley Hill, Kingswinford and Wordsley. **The rewards of care work are:**
- Make a real difference to vulnerable adults in need of care
- Work within your local community
- Paid travel time, mileage & expenses
- Earn the best rates of pay for all the hours you work
- Guaranteed hours to fit your needs*
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*subject to criteria
To find out more about joining our team please call us: 0121 226 3608
email: dudleycare@halesgroup.co.uk
Dementia Friends · CareQuality Commission
Halesgroup Health & Social Care
www.halescare.co.uk

ASHLEY MANOR UPHOLSTERY LIMITED
Is a leading manufacturer of quality upholstery based in Dudley - Require the following people due to our long term expansion
- SEWING INSPECTOR
- FURNITURE INSPECTOR
- CUSHION FILLER
- UPHOLSTERERS
- SEWERS

If you are interested in becoming part of our team, please apply to Mr Adam Sharman: Works Manager
ASHLEY MANOR UPHOLSTERY LTD
Unit 1,Woodside Industrial Estate, Pedmore Road, Dudley DY2 ORL.
Telephone 01384 486800

manufacturing

STEEL FABRICATORS Required to a join structural steelwork company. People required with experience working from drawings, able to manufacture all types of structural steel. Full time position with good rates of pay and conditions Please contact Gary on 01384 258400

motor trade

RS RECOVERY LTD are recruiting Mobile HGV technician to join our team. Successful applicants will be provided transport and there is ample opportunity for overtime. For more information please call Jas on 07732 695 098

part time - general

SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR We are looking for a part time machinist to work Monday to Friday in our Brierley Hill office. For more information, email applications@stopfilters.com

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ClassifiedAds

star extra TRAVEL
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Please read brochures/web pages for full information plus terms and conditions

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commercial and industrial premises, shops, factories, building plots...
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- Legal fees paid
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in a mess? talk in confidence we can help
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ANY CONDITION *subject to terms *PI Group
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24/7 0121 274 0398

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Sam
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0800 500 3109

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0121 274 0398

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Better Cash Deal
Its a simple as that, you get the best deal on your home from FIRST GENERAL HOMES
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One phone call solves all your problems
sell your house now
A guaranteed offer, no fees, fast completion, any condition, any circumstances
local investor
01902 628047
0800 633 5226

6 Property

properties wanted

A A PROPERTIES PAY A better cash price. Call Richard 07756 022973.

A BEST CASH DEAL PAID for your property every time 01902 628047

A LOCAL BUYER pays full market value and more for your property. Call Rick 07729 297901

ALWAYS CALL US FIRST for the top price for your house. 0800 169 1118.

FORGET THE REST and call me now for a best cash offer. 01543 499032

accommodation to let

A 3 BEDROOM First Floor Flat to let Wellington Road Bilston DSS ok 01902 686605

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

HIGH Quality One Bed and Studio Flats Tettenhall area. No DSS. 07976 263435 / 01902 700028.

Home Cash Buyer
Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish
Land Required
Ring Paul 24/7local on
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or 100% MARKET VALUE IN 28 DAYS!
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NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

HEATH TOWN WOLVERHAMPTON.
Applicants are invited for occupation of an Alms House by local retired people who have a housing need.
One bedroom centrally heated cottage.
For application form contact Doolittle & Dalley. Telephone: 01746 763336

MODERN TWO BED Apartment, ground floor, Dudley Port, £475pcm. No DSS. 07886 357429.

ONE BED flat, furnished, Lower Green, Tettenhall. 01902 744700 / 07765 964999.

ONE BED FLAT Netherton, CH, DG, £100pw. Deposit required. 07976 747022.

ROOMS TO LET, Bills Included In Bilston, Tipton and Wolverhampton areas. Call 07773 594640

SMART ROOMS in shared house. Netherton. from £85 pw inc bills. No DSS. Small deposit 07970 717139

TO LET Large bedsit Penn area, newly decorated, unfurnished, off road parking, deposit required, suit working person, 07486 379419.

TWO BED HOUSE Unfurnished. Stephens Close, Ashmore Park. £550pcm. DSS ok, avail early Nov Call City Lettings 0121 296 9866

mobile homes

FOR SALE: BRAND NEW PARK HOME Two bedrooms, quiet residential site in Coven. £88,500. Telephone 01902 791177.

overseas property

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

GET CUSTOMERS MOVING ADVERTISE

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SOURCE: The Newspaper Society - Consumer Catalyst 2014

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8 Motoring

cars over £1500

AUDI A4 S-LINE CONVERTIBLE
Black, FSH, MoT, 2008, 73,000 miles, alloy wheels, leather interior, diesel, 2.0.
£9,000.
07528 069018.

BMW 318CI COUPE
2 litre petrol, 2005, graphite metallic, MoT, s/h, 24,500 miles, immaculate original condition, lady owner, genuine calls only.
£3,500.
Telephone 07702 476031.

SELLING YOUR CAR?
We have a package to suit every budget.
Packages start from as little as
£21.00 for 6 nights
Plus
6 nights free if you do not sell.
CALL
01902 317878

CITROEN BERLINGO Multispace Desire, 07 reg, 1.6HDi, 75bhp, 21,334 miles, FSH, met red, MoT June 2016, £4,500. 01384 394423.

FIAT 500, 2009, 1.2 Pop, 40,000 miles, white, abs, pas, electric windows, central locking, fsh, MoT, ideal 1st car, £4,200.
07979 240484.

FIAT PANDA LOUNGE
2013. 1.2, 1 owner. Still under manufacturers warranty. 6,600 miles. £30 tax, FSH, height adjustable drivers seat. Remote locking. A/C, alloys, E/W.
£4,900. No offers.
Kidderminster 07788 990608

MAZDA 3 TS. 5-dr Hatch, met blue, 2006, climate control, low mileage, SH, MoT Sep 16. Excellent condition, £2,550. 01384 401209.

MINI COOPER, 2007, 120,000 miles, blue with white roof, white stripes, two new tyres, MoT, company car forces reluctant sale, £3,800. 07930 480908.

MINI ONE, 2005, Diesel, full MoT, 120k, red/white, excellent condition. £2,995. 07442 091546.

NISSAN NOTE TEKNA, 2008, 65,000 miles, auto, silver, electric windows, alarm, MoT, central locking, pas, CD, £3,000 ono.
07952 659597.

PEUGEOT 208, 2013, 1.4 petrol, 3dr Active, 18k, graphite, warranty to 2016, 1 owner, fsh, excellent condition. £5,995. 07703 540507.

RENAULT CLIO 1.2
Hatchback 3 door.
Immaculate condition, 2006 (56) plate, 44,000 genuine miles, 2 lady owners, service history and 12 months MoT.
£1,550 ono
Telephone: 07534 520989

VAUXHALL COMBO 2008, 98,884 miles, white, long MoT, pas, diesel, digital radio, hands free kit. Excellent Van £1,800 ono 07572 422525.

cars under £1500

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED
that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

BMA Est. Here 25 Years
A WIDE RANGE OF CARS UNDER £1,000
Open every day, Full MOT's
01902 490555
Dale Street, Bilston, WV14 7JY
www.bma-motors.co.uk

CITROEN PICASSO 1,6, MoT'd till feb 2016, 52 reg, air con, elec windows, average mileage. £989. 01902 895796.

FIAT PUNTO Blue, 5-dr, Excellent runner, low mileage, T reg, MoT'd Serviced regularly. £350. 07775 268149.

FORD FIESTA 1300, 51 plate, eight months MoT, runs very well, reliable, CD player, sunroof, four good tyres, £400. 07818 091901.

FORD FOCUS DIESEL ESTATE 1.8 TDi Ghia. 02 reg, silver. Very reliable. Some Service History. £795. Genuine calls only. 07850 330 251

FORD FOCUS ZETEC ESTATE X reg, MoT March, runner or ideal for spares or repair. £600 ono.
07979 652516.

FORD KA 2007 reg, 1200, full MoT, silver, drives / looks superb, 52,000 miles. £1,195. 07523 729551.

FORD MONDEO 2.0LX TDCi 2005, new clutch, full exhaust, MoT July 2016. £1,050.
01902 673719.

FORD MONDEO ESATE 2002 petrol, 6 months MoT, 110,000 miles, £450 ono. 01902 745980 / 07581 273529.

FORD MONDEO Hatch, 1800 petrol, 10 months MoT, blue, , good condition, CD, reliable, £395.
07870 241804.

HYUNDAI ACCENT, 2001, 81,000 miles, red, long MoT, £295.
07759 839786.

HYUNDAI GETZ 5-door, 05 plate, 1100cc, MoT August 2016, good condition £725 ono.
07760 887220.

JAGUAR S-TYPE 3.0 V6 SE, 51 reg, 11 months MoT, fsh, good looking motor. £1,000 no offers.
01902 785453 (W'hampton).

LANDROVER DISCOVERY 1994, 190,000 miles. Spares and repairs. New parts, good engine, chassis and body. £750 ono. 07807 348239.

LANDROVER DISCOVERY 1994, no MoT, parts or restoration, runs well. £300 ono. 01902 608040 / 07870 926595.

MITSUBISHI SPACESTAR 1.9TD, 5 seater MPV, 73k, 13 months MoT, 1 owner, full electrics, good condition, 54 reg. £1495. 07756 843196.

NISSAN ALMERA 1.5. 3dr, 05 reg, 10 months MoT, light blue, two former keepers. Quick sale. £695.
07790 886946.

NISSAN ALMERA S 52 reg, 57k, blue, electric windows, air con, metallic paint, 2 new tyres, 12 months MoT, £750 ono. 07527 729428.

NISSAN ALMERA 53 reg, full MoT, very good condition, new tyres, brakes, 1500cc. £895.
07827 059501.

PEUGEOT 206CC 03 reg, MoT till March 2016, silver, 83,000 miles, good condition. £700 ono.
07543 905312.

RENAULT LAGUNA 1.9 ESTATE diesel, 03, 11 months MoT, reliable, high motorway miles hence £500.
07957 617779 / 01902 609608.

RENAULT MEGANE SCENIC Fidji 1.4, 03, 77,892 miles, metallic blue, MoT May 2016, alloys, £550 ono.
07837 189722.

SKODA FABIA 1.4, silver, 5dr, MoT Feb 2016, good runner, good condition, £650 ono.
07411 733865.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0 1999, new MoT, 84k miles, tidy car, excellent runner, £395. 07983 421402.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 3dr hatch, T reg, burgundy, 64,000 miles, 7 months MoT, good condition, £500.
07968 905654.

VAUXHALL CORSA Design, 1.2, low mileage 31,000, 2008 reg, very good condition, MoT April 2016, blue, £3,500. 07736 828479.

VAUXHALL CORSA Twinport 1.2, 05 reg, 5 dr hatch, MoT March 16, very clean inside / out. £1,295 ono. Part ex welcome. 01902 829438.

VOLVO 850, 1994, 89,000 miles, silver, electric windows, alarm, central locking, pas, sunroof, used daily. £400 ono. 01384 294227.

VW GOLF 02, 1.9TDi, 12 months MoT, well maintained, £1,050 o.n.o. 07886 179984.

VW POLO 1.2E 2003, (53 Reg), black, 3Dr, low mileage 49k, full MoT, good condition, drives well, £1,100 ono 07958 445720.

classic cars

WANTED, CLASSIC Cars. Private cash buyer.Instant cash settlement. Any age. Any condition. 01630 652993 or 07773 462797.

commercial vehicles

PEUGEOT PARTNER 1.9 DIESEL, excellent condition, 1998, 9 months MoT, fully maintained, only used for fishing. £750. 07908 009210.

SUZUKI 1.3 Super Carrier Van. MoT, one owner, used daily, must sell, £600 ono.
Telephone 01902 843374.

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Drive All Seasons
Lessons Starting FROM
5 Lessons £50
10 Lessons £89
Manual & Automatic
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10 Hours £89! Five Hours £50!
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07970 200066 / 01562 870050
01384 234954 / 0121 5640090
01902 580065
www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

motorbikes

KAWASAKI ZR 750F T reg, good condition, MoT'd, 23,000 miles, new chain sprockets, £800 ono.
07754 121452.

KAWASAKI ZR 750F T reg, good condition, MoT'd, 23,000 miles, new chain sprockets, £900 ono.
07754 121452.

WE BUY BIKES immaculate, as new, garaged / non runners. Cash paid. Peter All Bikes, 01902 312939 bikesallspares@gmail.com

scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

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1000's of parts available at all times
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A BETTER PRICE
for scrap or damaged cars and commercials. Spares for sale.
NINE LOCKS VEHICLE DISMANTLERS LTD
Brierley Hill 01384 76566 or 70553. Evenings 75397. DY5 3JZ.

ABC AUTO SALVAGE
WANTED URGENT
Scrap & MOT Failures Best Prices Paid ELV Registered Spares Always Available
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Oldbury Area.

vehicles wanted

CROWN MOTORS guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, 01902 597035.

spares & accessories

clutches / brakes / gearboxes

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30 yrs experience
ALL AREAS COVERED
Call Bob
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Hyundai 110
Toyota Yaris
Clios & Micras
Ring for quotes on others!

mobile mechanics

MOBILE MECHANICS Service & repairs. Headgasket, clutches and cambelts. 07747 848469.

spares/parts

THULE ROOF BARS from £110.00, 3yr guarantee. Wolves Hire, 01902 746723 Tettenhall Rd, WV6 0LE.

tyres / wheels / exhausts

GOODYEAR TYRES, F1 x 2, 235 x 40 x 18, as new, £150 for both.
01902 687399.

9 Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to
Marie Hogg on 01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

CHRISTINE ANN MOORE (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of The Farthings 59 St James Road Oldbury West Midlands B69 2EA, who died on 18/04/2015, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned on or before two months from the date of this publication, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
NORTHWOOD BANKS & CO
1600 Coventry Road Yardley
Birmingham B26 1AL T453967

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

IN BANKRUPTCY
DUDLEY COUNTY COURT
NO 32 of 2005 **RE: SUSAN SANTINA CHILTON**

Who at the date of the bankruptcy order 18th February 2005, resided at 38 St Georges Road, Dudley, West Midlands DY2 8ER.

D.O.B: 5 March 1962

NOTE: the above-named was discharged from the proceedings and may no longer have a connection with the address listed.

I intend to pay within four months from *16th November 2015* (being the last day for proving) the first and final dividend of 6.40 p/£.

Creditors who have not yet proved their debts must do so by *16th November 2015* otherwise they will be excluded from the dividend. The required proof of debt form is available on the Insolvency Service website (www.bis.gov.uk/insolvency, select "Forms" and then form 6.37). Alternatively, you can contact my office at Second Floor, 3 Piccadilly Place, London Road, Manchester M1 3BN or telephone 0161 234 8500 to supply a form.

Mr D. Gibson, Official Receiver and trustee

10 Personals

personal

GENUINE MAN 52
Attractive, slim, caring, GSOH, solvent, car owner, WLTM lady 40 to 58 for evenings/days out and friendship.
Don't be shy, please reply and claim free hug.
Box Number P20093 , Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

LADIES WELL OFF WIDOWER 60'S
Own house and car.
WLTM lady 52-62, preferably car owner but not essential, for lasting Friendship / relationship.
All usual social activities.
Would be nice to meet someone for Christmas
Box Number P20089, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

SINGLE WOLVERHAMPTON LADY AGED 51
Average build.
WLTM Gentleman around the same age for Friendship / Relationship.
Box Number P20091, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

WIDOW 70's
Active, honest, bubbly, GSOH, likes days out, cinema, theatre, walking, holidays etc., would like to meet similar friend, m / f, for happy times. Approximately three miles radius from Wolverhampton.
Box Number P20086 , Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

sports clubs

FC PERTON

Charter Standard Club

Require players
Under 13's.

Please call
07592 065735

TRYSULL TIGERS EAST U'7's
Players required for current Season (School Year 2)
Please call Mathew
07973 300150.

general

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Place your items for sale with great offers from the Express & Star and *reach over half a million people*.*
We don't have any hidden fees, expensive delivery charges or commission payments - just a great service, at great value for money enabling you to buy and sell locally.
Contact us today to place your advert
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IN PERSON - At your local Express & Star office
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Buy Local, Sell Local ClassifiedAds

star extra TRAVEL

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Choose your show, price band* and how you want to travel

Coach inclusive breaks – Two days

Selected weekend departures

Saturday Night from £139.95
Theatre Weekend with Dinner from £149.95

Take in a top West End show and have some free time in London for shopping and sightseeing. For the Theatre Weekend with Dinner option see the matinee performance before heading to the hotel for an evening meal. The Saturday Night option includes a ticket for the show to see an evening performance.

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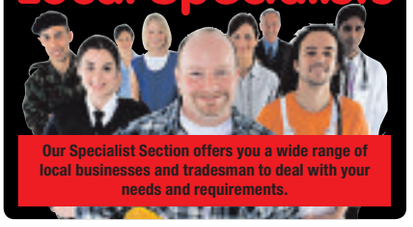

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Old Hales take long trip to lose

Scunthorpe 24 Old Halesonians 19

HALES set off on that long painful journey to Scunny for the sixth game of the season with Tom Jordan absent due to the birth of his daughter.

Also absent were backs coach Ben Barkley and wingers Luke Smith and Jay Reid (broken finger at training).

Centres Andy and Carl Robinson combined brilliantly, Carl kicked on for Andy to chase over for the first try of the day.

On 21 minutes, following pressure from the home side, and Scunthorpe gained a penalty. Further pressure resulted in the home team scoring a try.

Hales came back on 33 minutes with a Chris Hooper penalty, but that was negated six minutes later through a Scunthorpe penalty.

Injury to Hales Second Row Guy Field forced another reshuffle, however, the second half started well with pressure for Hales and a penalty on 43 minutes by Hooper.

But more ill discipline by the visitors resulted in another successful penalty to take the score to 16-11.

Hales came back again on 53 minutes when Hooper kicked another three pointer to close the gap further.

It looked likeHales were getting into gear. However, a moment of madness whilst only 10 metres from Hales' line, an attempt to run the ball out failed miserably when a kick would have been sufficient to relieve the pressure, meant Scunthorpe forwards had an easy time of stripping the ball from a maul for an unconverted try.

On 60 minutes hales Scrum Half Dave Hadkiss received a yellow card.

Not to be out done Hales worked their way back up field and were awarded a penalty.

Hooper struck the ball which all but the home touch judge thought was good, the ref consulted and disallowed the conversion. This was compounded when the home side were awarded another penalty which was successful.

Andy Robinson scored his second try.

Swimmers come from behind to take first round

HALESOWEN swimmers travelled to Wolverhampton for the first round of the National League at the weekend.

As expected the quality of the competition in the Premier division was high, and after 10 races Long Eaton were in front, City of Hereford second and Halesowen third.

Halesowen swimmers fought back, winning some crucial races and by the half way point were ahead of second place Long Eaton by five points.

However, City of Hereford were not giving up and after 42 races had moved into second place reducing Halesowen's lead to four points.

Halesowen extended their lead as they raced to the end of the gala, winning the final relay, whilst Long Eaton and City of Hereford fought for second. This was a great start for Halesowen and a superb team victory.

Final points scores were: Halesowen 206, Long Eaton A 199, City of Hereford 193, Stourbridge A 187, Wolverhampton 157, Mansfield 103.

Double individual event winners were Niamh Larkin in the 50m backstroke and butterfly, Chloe Finch in the 100m butterfly and freestyle, and Robert Jennings in the 100m backstroke and butterfly.

Other individual event winners were Jacob Bailey in the 50m backstroke, and Jack Simpson and Kate Morrice in the 100m freestyle.

The relay teams put on a fine show with the girls winning the medley relay in the 9-11 and 13 years age group events.

Yeltz streak goes on with Matlock scalp

Halesowen Town 3 Matlock Town 2

HALESOWEN continued their impressive winning and scoring sequence with a fifth win in just over 12 months against lucky-charm side Matlock and completed another double in a five-goal second half.

Before the game a one-minute silence was observed in remembrance of long-term supporter Roger Smith.

As play commenced, an early Isaac Cooper corner was cleared and Cooper's14th minute long throw-in was headed at visiting goalkeeper George Willis by Joe Hull.

Keyon Refell fed danger man Cooper in a quick 26th minute break but his low shot was easily gathered by Willis before home goalkeeper Dan Platt cut out a dangerous cross from Matlock's Ben Algar two minutes later.

Halesowen started to gain the upper hand towards the interval but missed several opportunities to take the lead.

Cleared

A 39th minute cross from Matlock's set-piece man Laurie Wilson was cleared and Platt collected Wilson's subsequent corner kick but Halesowen went close again just seconds before the interval through Rob Elvins after Cooper crossed along the face of goal.

The Yeltz raced to establish a two-goal lead early in the second half as Matlock made a poor start defensively after the interval with Cooper's wide-angled shot saved by Willis.

Hull volleyed home the opening goal from the centre of the penalty area.

Bragoli soon doubled the lead when put clear on goal.

The Gladiators made a triple substitution to try to improve their fortunes and pulled a goal back in the 69th minute when captain Danny Holland nodded home.

A header from Hull was cleared off the line but home substitute Greg Pearson made the game safe for Halesowen by heading the third goal directly from a Griffiths free-kick in the 87th minute.

But there was still time for Holland to touch home his second goal to make it 3-2.

Richards books Glassboys place

Justin Richards, right, celebrates with teammates after firing in the only goal of the match.*PhotoWill Kilpatrick*

Stourbridge 1 Rushall 0

STOURBRIDGE booked their place in the FA Cup fourth qualifying round draw thanks to a stunning free-kick from Justin Richards.

But Rushall almost forced a replay when Jack Duggan's volley flew inches wide late on.

Richards' goal proved decisive in front of a packed crowd of 773 at Amblecote. The visitors started brightly though, and could have gone ahead within the first few minutes.

A clever ball over the top of defence from Aris Christophorou found Jamie Spencer, on-loan from Kidderminster Harriers, whose lob hit the bar.

The Pics were left to rue that miss minutes later when Stour winger Chris Lait – formerly of Rushall – was brought down on the edge of the area after cutting in from the left.

Richards stepped up and lifted the ball over the wall and into the corner of the net to put the home side ahead with under 10 minutes on the clock.

Rushall were desperate for an equaliser and so nearly foundan equaliser through Duggan. Still, Stourbridge held on for the deserved victory.

Goals glut in dying minutes of match

Team Dudley 2 Worcs Raiders 5

FIVE of the seven goals came in a frantic final 12 minutes as Team Dudley were beaten by the bottom side in West Midlands Division One.

TD had a full squad for the first time since the last game at The Dell with Ryan Passey arriving back from work commitments to slot in at centre half.

An injury to Alex Pinches in college football saw him rested to the bench meaning Jahmal Patterson started at left back. The game started with two sides low on confidence struggling to find an opening.

But Dudley went ahead on 26 minutes when Nathan Jones' free-kick to the near post left the Raiders keeper a spectator.

Myles Nettleford went close for the home side, his header from a James Messenger cross flying just over the bar.

But four minutes before the break, Worcester levelled when Matty Andrews got behind the defence and sent a clever, controlled volley over Liam Jones and into the top corner. There was still time before the interval for the visitors' Nick MacPherson to hit a post.

Worcester went ahead 12 minutes from time, Anthony Smith's free-kick going over the wall and into the bottom corner. MacPherson added a third three minutes later and then made the game safe at 4-1.

Dudley debutant Matthew Cahalane tapped in after Jones' drive was saved, but deep into injury time Worcester bagged their fifth. Messenger lost possession to Alex Trigg who punished it low down in the corner from 12 yards.

Gill four-ce wind blows away Tipton

Smethwick 6 Tipton 0

TIPTON Town's dismal early season form suffered another huge setback with a 6-0 West Midlands Premier defeat at Smethwick.

The home side, clearly more senior in stature, took an early grip when Rohan Gill powered home a bullet-like header.

Gill repeated the dose three minutes later for 2-0.

Tipton rallied through Ravi Sangha and Chris Horton but on 23 minutes Smethwick scored again, Colin Smith leaving Town keeper Josh Morgan helpless.

Gill completed his hat-trickand although Gregg Grey went close for the visitors, Smith's second goal made it 5-0 at the interval.

Gill completed his sparkling afternoon by smashing home his fourth goal two minutes from time.

Single Goole is enough to stop the Tivs

Tividale 0 Goole 1

IT was another frustrating afternoon at The Beeches for Tividale supporters.

An unfortunate 18th-minute penalty proved the difference in the Evo-Stik Division One South fixture.

Jason Chilton tried to hook away a long punt into the Tividale penalty area without realising how close Goole's Matt Semley had closed in.

He caught the winger on the head with his boot and a penalty was duly awarded, Bobby Johnson sending Tividale keeper Tom Turner the wrong way with the visitors' only shot on target.

Tividale brought two superb saves from keeper Thomas Beaurepaire, the Frenchman brilliantly turning debutant striker Richard Gregory's volley for a corner and later denying Chris Sterling in fine style.

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Sport

Yeltz winning streak goes on
Page 51

Richards books Glassboys place
Page 51

Sherwood fighting for Villa future

TIM SHERWOOD is already fighting for his Villa future, with reports suggesting the boss has just two games to save his job.

The former Tottenham boss was appointed in February and guided the Villans away from the relegation zone and to the FA Cup final.

However, since the loss of star striker Christian Benteke to Liverpool and skipper Fabian Delph to Manchester City in the summer, Villa's new-look squad have managed to win just one of their opening eight Premier League fixtures of the season – on the opening day of the campaign at newly-promoted Bournemouth.

Just a solitary point – at home to winless Sunderland – has followed since, and Villa are currently on a run of four straight league defeats, sparked by a 3-2 reverse to Leicester City in a match Villa had been leading 2-0.

Sherwood is understood to have had a meeting with chief executive Tom Fox about the run which has left the claret and blues four points adrift of Albion and mired in the relegation zone.

Although they beat Second City rivals Blues in the League Cup and threatened to get something at Anfield when going down 3-2 to Liverpool, a derby-day defeat to Albion and last Saturday's 1-0 home loss to Stoke City means Villa are already four points adrift of safety.

Sherwood has been booed off at the end of matches against Stoke and Albion, as well as at half-time against Blues.

And he admitted last week that he is still searching to come up with his best 11 after a summer overhaul of the squad in which he spent more than £50m.

Reports at the weekend suggest Villa's next two games could be crucial to Sherwood's future.

Jamie tumbles out of darts Masters in quarter finals

TIPTON'S Jamie Hughes surrendered a lead and tumbled out of the BDO World Masters at the quarter-final stage.

Hughes took the first set but back came Swiss thrower Thomas Junghans to win 3-1 and end his dreams of glory, writes Craig Birch.

Junghans went onto face Glen Durrant, Hughes' close friend and conqueror in his World Championship debut this year.

The Black Country darter and BDO World No 2 couldn't replicate last year's Masters run to the final, where he lost to Martin Phillips.

The 29-year-old did see the last day of play at Hull City Hall, though, in the competition which has been broadcast on Euro Sport.

It was Hughes who had to come from behind in Saturday afternoon's last 16 clash with Darius Labanauskas.

The Lithuanian led and missed darts to make it 2-0, with Hughes taking advantage to reel off three sets in succession and nudge home 3-0.

'Yozza' opened in style on Friday, whitewashing Allan Edwards 3-0 without dropping a leg.

Wood do the double and that's no Lye

Lye Town 2 Walsall Wood 3

Football

WOOD recorded their first double of the season with this hard-fought win.

The second half exploded into life in the last 10 minutes but it was too little too late as Wood went home with all three points.

Wood had the first chance when on three minutes Corey Currithers raced clear wide left, his low cross hit first time by Max Black to bring a brave block from keeper Jake Bedford.

TThe home side was keeping up the pressure on the Wood defence.

Having weathered the storm Wood made inroads into the Lye half, Joey Butlin fastening on to a ball into the centre of the box to fire a rising drive into the roof of the net to put Wood ahead.

Three minutes later it was nearly two, Drew Aiton cleverly releasing Dan Griffiths into the left of the box to hit a first-time effort just too high.

On 26 minutes a clever right wing move from a throw in saw Kevin Nickle race into the edge of the six-yard box, his fierce near-post drive was well held by Evans.

There was no denying Nickle four minutes later however, Williams again made space wide right, his low cross to the near post volleyed home giving Evans no chance.

Within a minute Wood were back in front, Craig Deakin hit a long ball down the line.

Butlin was too strong for two defenders in the corner before coming away with the ball, crossing to the far post to pick out Currithers. His first time drive was pushed away by Bedford, Aiton was the first to react firing the ball into the roof of the net.

Wood sewed up the game with Griffiths' low drive which gave keeper Bedford no chance.

In extra time Spray fired into the corner.

GARY BREAKS THE SILENCE

GARY Patchett has broken his silence on the reasons behind Cradley Speedway chiefs pulling the plug on the club.

Patchett, along with Nigel Pearson and Chris Van Straaten, brought the Heathens back to league racing in 2010 and have enjoyed six successful seasons.

But things changed in the winter when the club lost the use of Monmore Green and switched to Perry Barr – which ruled Patchett out of meetings due to a previous dispute with stadium bosses.

Halesowen-based Patchett insists the club remains a viable venture with plenty of potential for any interested parties looking to take them forward into next year and beyond.

"There is no single reason that we have come to this decision but more a catalogue of circumstances," Patchett said.

"Nigel is ever busier with his media business which stretch much further than his involvement in speedway. He'd be foolish to neglect those and his business has to come first.

Torrid

"CVS has had a torrid season at Wolverhampton and I know only too well how that feels.

"He has to ensure that his business there receives his best attention and although he won't thank me for saying it, he isn't getting any younger. He certainly doesn't need the stress of running two clubs.

"The pressure on my two colleagues has increased considerably as a consequence of me being unable to attend our home meetings," he added.

"This seriously challenged my enthusiasm for the sport and Nigel and Chris talked me out of leaving the club then.

"I assured them I would do what I could behind the scenes but felt increasingly guilty at the increased burden I'd inadvertently put on them," said Patchett.

"Doubtless, these issues would have seemed less significant had we not been dealt a cruel hand by lady luck this year.

"Injuries to key members of the team and a lack of like for like replacements handicapped us before the season had hardly started. So we have different reasons to call time on this venture.

"Perry Barr doesn't work for us for, personally, a number of reasons but that's not to say it won't for another group and despite what I've already said we're grateful to have had the opportunity this year.

"Speedway is more expensive to run at Perry Barr than at Monmore Green and those who suggest we walked away from Wolverhampton couldn't be more wrong.

"We'd still be there now if that were possible. That's not to say we run at a loss at Perry Barr either.

"The business is viable there but it's harder work on lower crowds and higher overheads.

"To those that think we've been raking in the profits these last six years, do you really think we'd walk away from the golden goose if that were the case?"

Heathens have pencilled in next Wednesday, October 21, as the final Perry Barr meeting of the season with the Knockout Cup Final against Eastbourne lined up.

Loyal fans who have supported the club through its ups and downs over the past few years are hoping the match will not be the last one for the Heathens.

Gary Patchett, Centre, with manager Will Pottinger and director Nigel Pearson

DK runners do it on the dark trail

WITH the nights drawing in athletes from Dudley Kingswinford Running Club tried something a little different last weekend.

They took part in the Petzl Night Trail Wales, a relay race with laps of 3 to 4km starting at dusk and ending in full darkness with the winners covering the most number of laps in three hours.

With head torches mandatory there was a long stream of lights cutting through the darkness around the trails of the Coed Y Brenin forest.

The five runner DK team of Sarah and Pete Krivosic, Andy and Nessa Morrison and Phil Sayers covered eight laps in 2.44.12 to finish 55th out of 240 teams.

Elsewhere a handful of hoops travelled to Alcester for a 10k; Andy Litchfield recording 44.50 to take 66th place, Paula Pallant was 254th in 55.50 and Amy Bridgewater came 448th in 1.13.50.

Baljit Watson travelled to Kingston on Thames for the Human Endurance Race covering the 8.5 mile distance in 1.12. to claim first place in her age group and Mark Gatenby took part in the Plusnet Yorkshire Marathon finishing in 4.38.02 in 1211st place.

The largest race at the weekend for DK numbers wise was the Bells of Pattingham, a tough off road race covering an approximate distance of 7 country miles.

First home in 5th place was Ben Foster in 43.13, Matt Biggs came 9th in 44.47, Rob Sannwald finished in 48.32 in 21st, Richard Bate in 49.12 in 26th, Simon Hughes in 49.38 in 30th, Pete Hood in 52.04 in 44th, Mark Gallimore in 52.45 in 49th Graham Wildgoose in 53.49 in 57th, Mark Homer in 54.05 in 61st, Carol Fisher in 1.00.39 in 155th, Karen Doy in 1.01.26 in 172nd.

Olsson happy for team mates trio

ALBION defender Jonas Olsson knows exactly how the club's Northern Irish trio will be feeling as they cemented their place in next year's European Championships.

Olsson was in the Swedish squad that went to Euro 2012 in Poland and Ukraine, was delighted for team-mates Jonny Evans, Chris Brunt and Gareth McAuley who helped the Ulstermen progress.

He said: "They've been flying through qualification, it was really just a matter of when they could secure it."

"I'm happy for them, they've got a lot to look forward to in the summer.

"It's what you dream of when you start playing football."

★★★

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